

FIRST REPORT
OF THE
MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE

The Select Committee

No. 135

OF THE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

APPOINTED TO INQUIRE INTO

THE EDUCATION

OF THE

LOWER ORDERS OF THE METROPOLIS.

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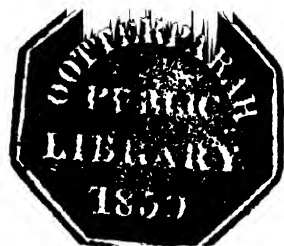
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The **SUBSEQUENT PART** of these "**MINUTES OF EVIDENCE**" will immediately follow the publication of the present, accompanied by a **DIGESTED INDEX** and an **APPENDIX**.

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MINUTES OF EVIDENCE,

&c.

Mercurii, 22^o die Maii, 1816.

HENRY BROUGHAM, Esq. in the Chair.

*Mr. THOMAS AUGUSTINE FINNEGAN, called in, and
Examined.*

WHAT are you?—Master of the St. Giles's Irish Free Schools, in George-street.

In George-street St. Giles's?—Yes.

How long have you been so employed?—Since June 1813.

Before that time were you employed in the education of children in that district?—In 1810 I was employed in Moorfields; I had a school consisting of about 120 children, boys and girls; I found a general disposition among the parents to have their children educated.

From your intercourse with the inhabitants of St. Giles's, in which you have resided since that time, can you speak to the state of the education and the situation of the lower orders generally?—I have taken a survey of the neighbourhood, and I have ascertained that there are upwards of 6,000 poor Irish in that neighbourhood, in the district of St. Giles, including the parts of Bloomsbury that are connected with it.

Do you mean 6,000 Irish families?—Six thousand poor Irish, exclusive of children; and they have all a general disposition to have their children educated, and not only send them, but many of the parents, who could not read or write themselves, attend to be taught; about 100 of them attend four nights in the week, to be instructed, some of them have been taught to read since January last, who exceeded forty seven years of age.

Have you any means of informing the Committee how

many children there are belonging to those parents?—Nearly 3,000.

In what state are those children generally as to education?—Entirely ignorant and destitute of any information whatever, unless those that are in schools at present.

In what state are they with respect to their morals?—Most depraved; they are exposed to every species of vice with which the streets abound; they generally associate with gangs of pickpockets: they are to be found in every quarter of the town, and particularly about St. Giles's.

Do those children belong to labourers in very poor circumstances?—Generally.

Are the morals of the parents themselves very dissolute?—Very dissolute, generally; on Sundays particularly they take their children with them to public-houses, and the children witness the scenes of riot and sanguinary conflict that happen among the parents in the streets.

Is the whole Sunday spent in those public-houses?—Entirely so; while they have a farthing left of their week's wages, they spend it in those public-houses, and the children are left to the parish, for food, during the rest of the week.

You are yourself a native of Ireland?—I am.

How many schools of all sorts are now established within the district of St. Giles's and the neighbourhood?—I do not know of any other, but one, which I believe is only for Roman Catholics. The St. Giles's schools are called free; they are for Irish Protestants as well as Irish Catholics; we interfere not with their opinions.

You are now speaking merely of the schools where those children attend, whom you have been speaking of?—Yes.

Do the parents of those children belong to the Catholic persuasion?—Not generally; many of them are Irish Protestants.

When you mention that there are only those two schools within the district, do you mean there is no other charity school at all?—There are parochial schools.

Are the English inhabitants of that district materially different in their morals and education from the Irish, of whom you have been speaking?—They are; their morals generally are much better, and their strict observance of the sabbath is exemplary, even of the lowest orders.

Your communication has principally been among the Irish?—Principally so; notwithstanding that, I have had much connection with the English also.

How many are educated in the school of which you have had the charge?—There have been 774 received into the

schools since 1813; out of that number, 520 have been so far instructed as to read the scriptures.

How many on an average are in the school at any one time?—Two hundred on an average.

How many is the school-capable of instructing at once?—Three hundred boys and girls.

What is the nature of the establishment?—To give the children of the poor Irish proper instruction, and useful information, in reading, writing, and arithmetic only, without interfering with the principles of their religion.

Are children of all religious denominations, provided they are of poor Irish parents, admitted?—They are; and are particularly directed to attend at such places of worship as their parents prefer.

By whom was the school founded?—The school was first founded by the Rev. Joseph Ivimey, of Harpur-street, with my assistance.

By what fund is it supported?—By voluntary subscriptions; but now considerably in arrears.

What is the annual income of the establishment?—Not more than 200*l*.

Is it upon this 200*l*. you complain of arrears?—It is not; that is the average income; we have expectation of donations.

To whom does the school-house belong?—I believe it belongs to Mr. Clarke, of Bury-place.

Do you pay rent for it?—Yes; Mr. Clarke engaged the school-house on his own account, he pays a rent for it to Mr. Wallis, of Long Acre.

Do the children pay any thing for their education?—Nothing: when the schools were first established, we endeavoured to assist the funds by requesting the parents to pay a penny a week; but we found the parents in many instances could not even pay that.

Was it from want of means or inclination?—In many instances from want of means, particularly in the winter season; their supply from the parish was so very trifling, and they are so improvident in the summer, they have no savings for winter.

Are the children fed or clothed?—They are clothed, and in the inclement season we fed them, when their parents were out of employ; they would literally have perished, had not a generous public subscribed towards their relief.

How long do they generally continue at school?—From nine in the morning till five in the afternoon, dinner hour excepted; in the evening many of the parents attend, as before described.

Are there any other schools than the one with which you are connected?—I have already remarked, there is another school, denominated “The St. Patrick’s.”

How many are taught in that school?—I do not know; they are all children of Roman Catholics, and instructed in the Roman Catholic principles.

Do you know any thing of the parochial schools in St. Giles’s?—Very little; I know there is a parochial school.

You do not know how many are taught there?—No, I do not; they are boarded and educated there.

Have the poor Irish, of whom you have been speaking, any other means of education whatever, than the schools of which you have been speaking?—I believe not.

Has there been an arrear since the establishment of the school of which you have the charge?—There has been a considerable arrear.

Have you any means of judging how many of the poor Irish, to whom you have referred, remove from the district in the course of a year?—I have no particular means of judging, but on a supposition I should say about 1,000; in the harvest season they generally go into the country.

By what means do you ascertain the number of which you have spoken?—I took a survey three years ago, and another six months ago; I went from house to house, and from room to room, and am particularly acquainted with the state of the families. I have stated before, that there were 3,000 children; I mean children above the age of five years: when the children advance in years, they are generally sent to Ireland to their relatives, and that causes the number to appear so small.

At what age are they sent to Ireland?—As they grow up, the parents find it impossible to maintain them here, and they are sent to Ireland to their friends; particularly if there are any in circumstances capable of giving them some relief: many are also sent from the workhouse to Manchester, I am inclined to think, as apprentices.

At what age are they accustomed to send them as apprentices?—Between the ages of nine and twelve. The officers of the parish are so particular, when they apply for relief they take their children from them.

When you mentioned the district of St. Giles’s, within what bounds are you speaking?—Only of the parish of St. Giles; I include Seven Dials, and as far as St. Martin’s-lane; it is an extensive parish: there are very few of the Irish in that part of Bloomsbury within the parish.

You have stated, that you had room for 300 children, and that only 200 attended; how do you account for your

establishment not being full?—From the most unprecedented opposition, by the Roman Catholic clergy, to the teaching the holy scriptures.

You have no want of funds, if parents would send their children to your school?—We are considerably in arrears now, and have been since the commencement of the schools: the schools are quite sufficient to contain 300 children, in their present state; our funds are certainly inadequate; notwithstanding, our treasurer is willing to advance, in hopes of supplies from generous contributors.

You have said, you do not interfere with the religious principles of the children; what do you mean when you say you have met with unprecedented opposition from the Roman Catholics?—We make use, as a reading book in the school, of the approved version of the holy scriptures: the Roman Catholic clergymen are averse to that; they will not allow the children of Roman Catholics to read the scriptures at all. What I mean by not interfering with religious opinions is, that we introduce or use no creed, catechism, or confession of faith, but leave the children to attend such places of worship as their parents prefer, and to be instructed in their peculiar modes of worship by their own clergy.

Their objection is to the children being taught to read the scriptures?—The parents entirely approve of it, and wish their children to be taught to read them; but the Catholic priests oppose it, and threaten the parents to deprive them of their religious privileges if they suffer their children to read the scriptures; and have done so in many instances.

Is this opposition of late?—It has been ever since the commencement; as soon as the plan and design of the schools were made known, their opposition immediately commenced; one of the priests entered the school-room, and demanded permission to teach the Roman Catholic catechism in the school; this was objected to: the Sunday following, he preached against the schools, addressed a Roman Catholic congregation, and the effect of the sermon was, the windows of the school-house were broken, my wife and I pelted with mud, and a few days after my child so beaten as to become a cripple, and is so to this day; the usual epithet whereby we are designated, is, “the Protestant Bible School,” as a term of reproach.

How long ago is this?—Our report particularly points out the time; Mr. Gandolphy preached the sermon about two years ago.

Has your number fallen off since that time?—At the time, the number decreased from 230 to 38 for one week; but the

week following, the parents, satisfied with the mode of instruction, sent their children again; and in the course of six weeks our full number was completed, and it has continued at an average ever since. The violence of the priests is incessant, they go from room to room, endeavouring to persuade the parents not to send their children, and I endeavour to be as active as possible in pointing out to the parents the advantages arising from a moral education, considering there can be no true religion that is not founded on principles inculcated from the Bible.

Do you know whether those persons, when they attempted to prevent the parents sending the children to your school, attempted to persuade them to send them to the other school?—I cannot exactly say.

About how many are educated in the Catholic school?—About 200; their avowed hostility to our school is particularly expressed in their own declaration, which appears in one of their reports.

Of what principle are you?—I am myself of Protestant principle. There are a number of poor Irish in Saffron-hill; I made a survey there last week, and I found there were 3,420 Irish adults; the average of the children were three to each family, some five and some two, making about 5,000 of all ages.

What did you observe respecting the morals of those people?—Similar to that that I have observed in St. Giles's, but a disposition to give their children education, and to be taught to read themselves.

What means of instruction have those children?—They have none; I have solicited a few friends to endeavour to establish a school there, which they are now about doing.

Was there no free school for those children, before that?—I understood there was a free school, of the National establishment, in the neighbourhood; but the Irish have a disinclination to send their children to schools avowedly Protestant.

Do you know how many the National Free School educates?—No, I do not.

What wages do those poor Irish in St. Giles's earn a day?—Some of them have only two shillings a day; but very few exceed three.

What do they work at?—Generally they work at labouring work, as paviors' labourers, plasterers' and bricklayers' labourers; I know very few indeed have more than 3s. a day.

What do the wives employ themselves in?—The greater part of them, in the morning carry loads from Covent-garden and other markets for what they can get.

Do you know what wages they get?—There is no set

wages; according to the discretion of the person who engages them. Since the schools were established, a very observable amendment has been seen in the conduct of the parents and children connected with the schools; at the time they began in 1813, the language of the children was violent in the extreme; their general employment at present, when they have done school, is preparing their task for the next morning; they commit portions of scripture to memory each day, and there are rewards distributed for their encouragement of reading the scriptures at home: preceding the period of 1813, their sanguinary battles were frequent, particularly on Sundays, but since that period I have not witnessed above five, which I attribute to the influence education has on their morals.

Jovis, 23^e die Maii, 1816.

HENRY BRUGHAM, Esq. in the Chair.

Mr. JOHN KELLY, called in, and Examined.

YOU are treasurer of the Saint Patrick's school?—I am secretary and trustee.

How long have you been so?—Since its commencement in 1803.

By what funds is it supported?—By voluntary contributions.

What is the purpose of the charity?—For the instruction of the poor children in Saint Giles's and its vicinity; and if there is any superabundance of contributions, it is applied towards the maintenance of orphans.

Do you mean by children in Saint Giles's and its vicinity, the children of the poor generally, or only the Irish children?—The children of the poor generally, if they are Catholics; but we feel ourselves bound not to admit any persons into the school, but those who are of that religion.

How many children receive education?—I think there are at this moment about 400; I think it is rather beyond that number, of boys and girls.

Do you think that 400 is the average number that are educated?—At present we have more than we usually have, more especially in the female school.

Is that increase of number temporary?—I believe it has been partly owing to a very excellent school-mistress, who has undertaken that office from motives of humanity, without reward, and under her influence the female school has considerably increased.

What used the number to be, before that increase?—The school is divided into a boys school, situate in Dean-street, and the girls school in Denmark-street; till about two years ago, the number of girls used to be about sixty, and I believe at present there are about 200; the boys school has always averaged from 150 to 200.

Has the girls school had 200 in it permanently during the last two years?—It has been generally increasing, and the lady who has undertaken the management of it, says that if she had more space, she should be able to get more children.

Are the funds of the society in a flourishing state?—They promised very well at the late annual meeting.

When was that?—On the 6th of May.

Do you mean to represent, you have as much funds as you have any occasion for in supplying the money requisite for educating the children?—If we abandon the intention of taking orphans, I presume the funds would enable us to take all the children our space would allow us to receive.

If you had a larger space, have you reason to believe that many more children would come for education?—The lady who conducts the female school has repeatedly urged that to the committee.

Are there as many boys and girls now educated in both those schools, as the schools will admit?—The boys school would admit 100 more, perhaps, than it has hitherto had.

To what cause do you take it to be owing, that there are so few children in the boys school, compared to what it would admit?—I cannot rightly speak to that, except that there is another school existing in the neighbourhood.

Do you know how many children are educated in that other school?—I do not.

Do you mean the school under Mr. Finnegan?—I do.

Then do you apprehend that 330 children are the whole number of poor in your parish who require education?—I must answer that by saying I have never made it my business to go into Saint Giles's, to inquire as to what children stood in need of education.

Have you observed any indisposition on the parts of the Irish Catholics in that district, to educate their children in those schools?—By no means; but I believe it frequently happens that they have not clothes to send them in, and from other causes of poverty, they have almost abandoned all hopes of doing it; I believe the other school, and ours likewise, are endeavouring to furnish the children with the means of covering them, and I believe it is owing to that, that our school has become more numerous.

Do you know any thing of any other parish schools belonging to Saint Giles's?—I do not; there is another Catholic school, which has one of its establishments in Wild-street, and I believe they receive also some of the children from the Saint Patrick's society.

What are the whole expenses of your establishment?—I think about 900*l.* is the whole expense of the establishment.

For which about 400 boys and girls are educated?—Yes, and I think about six or seven female orphans entirely provided for, and no boys; it was formerly both for boys and girls, but we made an agreement with the other charity, that they should take the boys and we the girls, for reasons which are obvious.

How much may the expense be of supporting those six

or seven orphan girls?—We take it upon an average of 20l. each.

Then how is the other 760l. expended in the education of 400 children?—The two first items that strike me, are the rents of the two premises, which I think are about 170l. a year; from that I think 30l. a year is to be taken off, leaving 140l. the net rent we have stood at, including taxes.

What is the next expense?—The salary of the school-master, I believe, last year, was 60l.; that which would be the mistress's salary, she has to purchase rewards for the children, say 40l.; and there is occasionally printing.

What sort of printing?—Books and lessons, and some publications occasionally, to keep the thing alive.

When you reckon the whole expense at 900l. what is the whole income?—In speaking of the income this last year, ending Lady-day, 1816, there was an excess of 150l.; we were indebted to the carpenter and builder, for sundry repairs in the school for two years and a half, and he brought in his bill this year, which I think was 220l. odd pounds. I have not mentioned yet, neither does it occur to me, what the sum was, but there is clothing provided for a great number of children at the anniversary dinner; but I do not call to mind what number of children were provided with clothes for the dinner of 1815.

You have mentioned 900l. as the expense of this last year; what is the average expense of the year 1814, or for any preceding year?—I think I may venture to say that the average has been from seven to nine hundred pounds; till this last year the orphan establishment has never been so low as seven; it used to be twenty.

From what you have stated, the average expense being small in former years, was the average income as much as 1,050l.?—We have always taken care to let our outgoings be something in proportion to our income.

Have you any salary for executing your office?—No.

Has any other person, except the school-master?—None whatever.

What are the hours of instruction?—From nine to twelve in the morning, and from two to five in the afternoon, in summer; I believe there is a little difference in winter time.

The school-master resides in the house, I suppose?—He does not at present; the matron resides in the orphan-house for the girls.

What are they taught?—Reading, writing, and arithmetic.

Are the girls taught any work?—Certainly; they are taught needle-work and household-work.

Upon what plan do you teach?—We attempted to teach, some time ago, upon Lancaster's principle, but not precisely upon his plan: we could not follow his plan precisely, but we followed his principle, so that the number of children, however great, does not become an inconvenience to the teacher.

Are the scriptures taught?—The Catholic religion is taught, and every branch of the scriptures are taught, as proposed by Catholics.

Are the children instructed from the Bible itself?—From the Bible, the Testament, and religious books; their lessons are pasted upon boards, according to Lancaster's plan, and those lessons are extracts from the Bible or Testament, and also lessons from their Catechism.

From what you know of the poor Irish, do you believe they have a great desire to give their children education?—I have no doubt of it whatever.

Do the children pay any thing for admission into the school?—Certainly not, in any way whatever; and if the master or other person about the school were to receive bribes, they would be discharged.

Has the school-master any other profession or employment?—None at all.

What have you increased his salary to, lately?—It will be increased 20l. if not more.

Has he any perquisite of any kind?—None at all.

Does any part of the income which you have stated, arise from money in the funds?—I think there are 3,500l. in the 3-per cents.

Mr. THOMAS LEARY, called in, and Examined.

YOU undertook to survey the district in the neighbourhood of Saint Giles's?—I did.

As one of the gentlemen belonging to the West London Association?—Yes, one of the committee.

When was that?—In 1813, I think.

Who accompanied you?—Mr. Doyle and Mr. Spratley.

What district was it you examined?—It was called the Covent-garden division.

Can you tell us nearly what the bounds were?—The method in which the West London Association acted, was to divide their portion of the metropolis into divisions that they intended to erect schools for, and then they subdivided those divisions into districts.

Which district was it you examined?—It was called the Covent-garden division.

Can you tell us the streets?—From the corner of

Catherine-street in the Strand, to Exeter-court Strand, Exeter-change, Change-court, Burleigh-street, Marigold-court, New-street, Dennis-court Strand, Lumley-court Strand, Bullen-court Strand, Baylie's-court Strand, New Exchange-court Strand, and Bedford-street. I beg to observe here, that the remainder of the division was not visited, in consequence of the two gentlemen, who accompanied me, not being able to devote their time to it just at that period.

Did you yourself visit the whole of the district you have mentioned?—Not the whole of it.

How many houses did you visit?—Two hundred and fifteen.

Upon that number, what was the number of poor children educated and uneducated?—97 boys educated, and 145 uneducated.

How many girls?—75 educated, or with the means of education; and 112 uneducated, and without the means of education.

What age do you speak of?—Of an age fit to go to school, about four or five years of age; we sometimes did take an account of the children who would be likely to go to school when we erected one.

Were many of those people in a state of great misery?—Very great.

Were they chiefly composed of English, Irish, or Scotch?—I think they were chiefly composed of English and Scotch; but there was one court (Dennis-court) which was entirely inhabited by Irish.

Did you perceive any difference in the different sets of English, Irish, and Scotch, which were worst educated?—Our association was founded upon a principle which excluded all party spirit.

In the survey you took of this district, do you think there was more want of education where the Irish were, or where the English and Scotch were?—The number of Irish was too small to enable me to make any observation upon that. In our district we took an account of all Irish families, and in the division I visited, we had only five Irish families that had children.

How many houses were there in the district?—Five hundred.

You did not visit any other district?—No, I did not.

Did all the persons, among whom you went in the course of your inspection, express a willingness to assist according to their ability in the plan of education?—Very much so, for there was hardly a person we went to, though they were some of the very poorest, that did not endeavour to

contribute something, sixpence or a shilling, and they were very anxious that a school should take place.

How have those subscriptions been applied?—The undertaking was very extensive; the intention was to build schools in the west of London, bounded by Temple-bar and those districts which divide the west end of the town from the City, upon one side; the boundaries on the other side I do not now recollect. In order to accomplish that, a committee (which was appointed at a general meeting held for the purpose) separated the whole of the west of London into eleven divisions; those divisions they subdivided into districts, as they called them; in those districts they expected to get persons who would visit from house to house, and ascertain the number of children educated and uneducated, and to solicit subscriptions; there were a variety of causes afterwards which prevented the extensive object of the Association being carried into effect, and still remains unexecuted, but not given up. The great difficulty we found at that time was to get persons to visit the districts; it is very difficult to get men in trade to devote their time to that purpose, and those who undertook to visit that district got cool upon it.

How much was received from that division?—I received from those few streets 7l. 18s. 9d. and from the poorest classes 1l. 11s. 6d. in sums from twopence to one shilling,

How have those subscriptions been applied?—They have been applied in printing, in promoting the objects of the Association, in expenses of public meetings which were held in order to procure those subscriptions, in the rent of an office taken, and in a salary to an acting secretary.

Has any school been erected by the Association?—No school has been erected, but they have taken one which had been originally a Lancasterian school in the Horse-ferry Road, in which they are teaching at present.

How many boys are taught in that school?—The number upon the books, I believe, is about three or four hundred, but of them I do not think more than 150 attend regularly.

From what parts do those children come?—From the neighbourhood of Tothill-street, Westminster, and thereabouts.

Who is the master of that school?—Mr. Jameson.

In the course of your inspection, did you find great anxiety amongst the poorest classes whom you have described, to procure education for their children?—Very great, I think; in the short visit which I paid, I found the poorer classes particularly anxious upon the subject of education.

You know nothing of any parish school in the neighbourhood of that district?—No, I do not.

Mr. FRANCIS BAISLER, called in, and Examined.

WAS it the parish of St. Giles's which you visited?—The left-hand side of Long Acre, along Drury-lane.

How many educated children did you find there?—417 educated.

How many uneducated?—497.

Did you find them in great distress?—Many of the families in very poor circumstances indeed.

Were those of the lowest orders, generally speaking, uneducated altogether?—The greater part of them, where there were three or four in a family; one or two of them perhaps could read a little, others not at all; and many had not the means of procuring education.

Did they seem anxious for it generally?—Extremely so; the general inquiry was, what time they might expect to get their children to school.

What nation were they chiefly, of the families you visited?—A good many Irish.

Did you find any difference in the Irish, as to their education?—Yes.

What was it?—There were generally more in their families uneducated than the others.

Did you find any difference in their anxiety to be educated?—Very little, they were generally as desirous of having their children educated as the others.

Were the families for the most part English, Irish, or Scotch?—A good many Irish, but some of all.

Do you know whether there were any schools established before your visit in the neighbourhood?—I do not think there was, in the district we visited.

When you speak of children, to what age do you refer?—From four to ten; after that time they generally send them out to do something, and do not keep them at home.

You saw a great deal of misery and filth?—Yes, very great.

Mr. FREDERICK AUGUSTUS EARLE, called in, and Examined.

HOW long have you been clerk to the vestry clerk of the parish of St. Giles?—About twelve years.

In the course of that time have you had occasion to attend at the workhouse school?—Yes.

Is there any other parish school besides the workhouse school?—There is a charity school in Queen-street, Bloomsbury.

Who is at the head of that school?—There is at present no secretary to the school, but certain trustees are appointed.

by the subscribers, who manage the concerns of it; it is a school for 101 boys and 70 girls; there are but 60 girls at present in the school.

Is there any other school in the parish, besides Mr. Finnegan's and St. Patrick's schools?—There are several schools under the management of parish officers; I am speaking of the united parishes of St. Giles and St. George Bloomsbury; there is one established in Eagle-street, upon the Lancasterian plan, in which there are 100 boys educated, and fourteen pence a month is paid by the parents towards the schooling.

Is it supported by voluntary subscriptions?—I believe the remainder is paid by voluntary subscriptions.

Do you know of any other school?—There is one established in Store-street, Bedford-square, that purports to have thirty girls, but at present there are only twenty-two, and the parents pay a penny a week for each child, I understand.

Is that a Lancasterian school also?—That I am not aware of; there is another school likewise in Store-street, in which there are seventy children, who pay two-pence a week each, that is on Dr. Bell's principle; there is another in Wild-street, in which there are 100 boys educated.

Do they pay any thing?—I believe not, I am not quite sure of it; there is likewise a free school in Wild-street or the neighbourhood, in which there are 40 boys and 45 girls; it is principally maintained by subscriptions from Queen-street chapel.

Are you aware that a number of children attending the schools you have mentioned, do not live in the neighbourhood?—A great number do not.

Are there any other schools that you can speak to?—There is one in West-street, in which there are 300 boys and 100 girls.

Do you mean actually educated?—I understand, from the master, there are 400 now.

Is that upon the National system, or the Lancasterian?—I do not think it is upon either; the master has the principal management of it, under the direction of the Rev. Mr. Gurney, and nine-pence a month is paid by each child.

Do you know how many masters there are in it?—There is a master and a mistress.

Are the funds of that school provided by charity?—I understand they are; there is another school in Gate-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, and I am informed there are about 300 boys and girls altogether there.

Supported by charity?—Yes.

Do they pay any thing?—I am not aware of that. There is a school now building, under a committee of

parish officers, which is under the will of a Mr. Shelton, near the vestry-room of St. Giles's, in which there are to be 50 children educated, 35 of the parish of St. Giles, 10 of St. Martin, and 5 of Covent Garden, agreeably to his will.

How much money did he leave for that purpose?—Having been called upon quite unexpectedly, I have not furnished myself with the particulars of that school: it is left by will to the management of the churchwardens and a committee of the vestry.

Are there no other foundations, of the same sort, in the parish?—I am not aware of any other but the workhouse school, which contains 63 children.

From whence do the funds come for that school?—From the poor rates; there are 30 girls and 33 boys.

Is it limited to that number?—No; it varies every day, in consequence of the admission of people to the workhouse, whose children are placed in the school.

Is that school merely for the children of persons admitted to the workhouse?—Yes.

What is the annual expense of that school?—We cannot ascertain that, it being blended with the workhouse, and being one branch of it.

What salary has the schoolmaster?—Twenty pounds a year, and his lodging and board.

What has the schoolmistress?—She has twenty-five pounds for two situations; she is housekeeper as well.

Is she the wife of the schoolmaster?—No.

Are the children boarded as well as lodged?—Generally.

How many years are they kept at school before they are apprenticed out?—They frequently go out of the school before they have been in long, being taken away by their parents; but about the age of ten years they have been apprenticed to manufacturers.

What are they taught?—Reading and writing, if they remain sufficiently long enough in the school, and accounts; a great many of them are taken away before they arrive to that; there is no other parish school under the churchwardens and overseers of the poor.

Do you know of any other charitable foundation within the parish, for the purposes of education, besides those you have mentioned?—No, I do not; there may be others.

Is there a grammar-school in the parish?—I am not aware of any. I beg to state, there may be some little variation as to the number of scholars I have mentioned, except as to the workhouse school; but I have spoken to them from the best information I could procure.

Have you sufficient knowledge of the state of the poor

of the parish of St. Giles, to inform the committee respecting it?—Yes; I have been in the daily habit of seeing them, and visiting the district.

Are there a number of children in the parish destitute of the means of education?—A great many.

How long have you known those schools of which you have spoken?—I cannot speak to that; the school in Store-street has been very recently established.

You have stated, that some of those schools are short of the number which they could accommodate; do you apprehend that the poorer classes require inducement to bring their children to school?—A great many do; and a great many are very anxious to get their children placed in schools.

What do you conceive to be the disposition of the poor Irish, with respect to their wishing their children to be educated?—The number that I see in the workhouse, generally speaking, are desirous their children should be educated; but they are deterred, in a great measure, from being in want of clothes, and from the mother not being able to attend to the children, from going out to market, and leaving them the whole day to themselves.

Are there any other obstructions which present themselves against the education of the poor Irish children of St. Giles?—I am not aware of any so material as those I have mentioned.

Do you see any of the poor at their own habitations?—Very frequently.

What is the general state of the children in St. Giles's, with respect to their morals and education?—In a very dreadful state, I am afraid.

Do you apprehend there are many children of very bad character in St. Giles's?—I do indeed.

Are there many thieves?—A great many.

Are girls early devoted to prostitution?—Very early. I had an opportunity of attending at the Public Office, Marlborough-street, but last week, where there were about 30 prostitutes that had been apprehended in the parish of St. Giles, and several of them were very young, two or three of them not above thirteen or fourteen years of age.

Have you ever gone through the interior of St. Giles's on a Sunday afternoon?—Many times.

In what state have you found the generality of the inhabitants?—The generality, I think, have been very peaceable and orderly; but I have frequently seen great affrays on a Sunday.

How do the children in St. Giles's spend their Sundays?—A great many in playing about the streets.

Have you ever noticed any going towards the fields in great numbers, and in a riotous manner?—Very frequently.

Does it fall within your knowledge that a great number of children are gambling and behaving in a very riotous manner in the fields on a Sunday afternoon, in the neighbourhood of that parish?—I have, in that parish and St. Pancras, seen a great many.

How many?—Fifty or sixty.

In parties, or altogether?—In various parties about the fields; I do not mean to say together.

Do you apprehend there would be any improvement in those children, if more pains were taken with their education?—I have no doubt of it.

Have you any officers of your parish, constables, churchwardens, overseers, or any responsible person, to take cognizance of any of these irregularities?—The beadies are constantly employed in doing it; but immediately they go away, those children assemble again.

Are you aware, or have you not heard, that there is a system laid down by the parents of those children, to encourage them to go out thieving?—I have heard it, but do not know it personally.

Do you think that a want of clothing in the children prevents them from attending school, and likewise from attending divine worship?—I should apprehend that many parents will not send their children in the destitute condition in which they are; I do not speak generally, but we have them frequently come into the workhouse naked, or nearly so.

Have you known any instances in which children have been induced to come to school, and the parents afterwards have been very well satisfied with seeing their children informed?—Very many instances; some have been clothed by the churchwardens and overseers, and of my own knowledge they have got admission to the school of Mr. Finnegan.

Have you any establishment for the reception of prostitutes, after being before the Magistrates?—None but the workhouse, where they are sometimes kept for a short time; I am aware that there are many parents who will not send their children to school, because they send them out begging, that begging being the principal support of the parents.

Have you known of children, who were taught reading at the schools, going home and reading to their parents who had not the benefit of education?—I have; and have frequently seen children at the workhouse, who did not formerly go to school, and on speaking to them I have found they have made astonishing progress.

Mr. EDWARD NORRIS, called in, and Examined.

YOU have heard the evidence given by the other witnesses, respecting the state of the poor Irish in St. Giles's; does your information lead you to agree with it?—I partly coincide with the whole of it.

Do you know of any other schools in that neighbourhood, but those which you have heard spoken to?—There is one called "the Bedford," in Tottenham-court Road.

How many are educated at that school?—I really cannot say; I only know there is such an establishment.

Is the chapel you attend chiefly frequented by the lower Irish?—Chiefly by the lower Irish.

Is it a Catholic chapel?—It is.

From their appearance at chapel, should you conceive them to be in miserable circumstances?—They do make a very miserable appearance, frequently.

Do they bring their children with them?—They frequently do and frequently do not.

Are they very destitute of the means of education generally?—I should not exactly say that, because we have room in the school attached to the chapel for more than attend.

To what do you attribute there not being so many children there as the school could accommodate?—Partly neglect, and partly want of the inducement of clothing.

Is there a general anxiety prevalent among those classes to have their children educated?—They profess so.

From that, you do not appear to credit it?—While there are opportunities for them, I should not quite credit it.

In short, they would rather spend their money in drink, than in giving clothing to their children?—Too many would.

Does any method strike you of reclaiming them from that perversion?—I do not know of any general remedy; we do as much as lies in our power.

Do you belong to the Benevolent Society of St. Patrick, or the United Society?—I belong to the chapel of St. Patrick.

Is that a branch of the Society of St. Patrick?—It is neither one nor the other, it is quite a distinct thing.

Mr. JOHN HONEYMAN, called in, and Examined.

WHAT are you?—A silk manufacturer.

Are you acquainted with Spitalfields, and that neighbourhood?—Yes; I have resided there four and twenty years.

How are the poor children off, for education, there?—There are a great number of them uneducated.

Can you give us any idea of the number of children uneducated?—Not accurately I cannot.

Near about it?—I should suppose near 2,000.

In what population?—In a population of from 17 or 18,000.

Are those the children of the poorest classes?—Yes.

What means of education are provided in that district?—

There is a parish-school which contains 110 children, and a parish Sunday school of 150; and there is a Protestant dissenting school of 100 children; there is a Methodist school, in Raven-row, of 500 children, that is a Sunday school.

Is that upon the Lancasterian plan?—I believe it is. There is a Sunday school, in Hope-street, of about 200; there is another Sunday school, belonging to Mr. Evans's Chapel, of 800, upon the Lancasterian plan partly, that is merely a Sunday school; there is Mrs. Buxton's school, of about 100 children, who pay about two-pence a week; all the rest are free. There is an adult school of 160; and a free school also, which is likewise held on a Sunday evening.

Are there any others, besides those you have mentioned?—I know of no others.

How are those different schools supported?—By subscriptions, except Mrs. Buxton's, which I believe is supported by herself.

Have you any parochial schools?—I have mentioned there is a parochial school of 110 children, and a parochial Sunday school of 150.

How are those supported?—By voluntary subscription: and part of the money is funded.

You do not know what the amount of the funds are?—No, I do not.

From all that you have stated, do you apprehend that there is a great want of the means of education in your district?—I think there is: there are as many uneducated as educated; there is a great deal of poverty and distress among those persons now; want of clothing is a very serious objection to their sending their children to school.

Are the schools worse attended in times of distress than at other times?—They are, certainly.

You reckon this a time of great distress?—I do; I think I could take the members of this committee, within ten minutes walk of my house, and show them 20,000 hands out of employ; there are about 7,000 looms unemployed, and each loom generally employs three hands.

Is there any indisposition on the part of the poor to send their children to those schools?—I never saw any whatever.

Have you observed any anxiety on the part of the parents to have their children educated?—A considerable anxiety; two years ago I was employed to take a survey of the poor, to know their distress for want of Bibles, and we went into almost every room, when we took an opportunity of recommending them to send their children to school; since that we have distributed upwards of 1500 Bibles and Testaments among them.

In the course of that survey, did you find great misery and ignorance prevailing among those orders?—Very great; there were nearly 1000 adults who could not read, besides a great number of children, I presume about 2000 children.

Did they appear to regret the state of ignorance in which they were?—Many of them did very much. Of the schools which I have mentioned, six have been established within these twelve years.

In the Sunday schools, how many years attendance does it require to teach a child reading?—I really am not quite sure how long; if they attend constantly they will very soon acquire it; from the observation I have made, I am persuaded Sunday schools are by far the most efficient way of instructing children, their parents cannot spare them so well on other days, and their attendance is generally better on Sundays than on other days.

Could any of the schools which you have mentioned, accommodate a considerably greater number than attend them?—Yes, they could; the parish school, and the parish Sunday school, and the adult school, could all admit more.

How many more, do you think?—I am not quite sure; Mr. Evans's school, which educates 800, can only admit 400 at a time.

Is the school, which educates 500, full?—It is.

Are there any other schools full?—No.

Have you many Irish in your neighbourhood?—A very considerable number.

Can you form any idea of the number?—No, I cannot exactly; they are principally casual poor.

What are the poor rates in your neighbourhood?—Five shillings in the pound rack rent, and they are going to raise them next quarter another shilling; we are relieving now about 1200 poor every week, besides about 500 in the workhouse.

Adjourned to to-morrow, one o'clock.

Veneris, 24^o die Maii, 1816.

HENRY BROUGHAM, Esq. in the Chair.

Mr. WILLIAM HALE, called in, and Examined.

WHAT is the state of the lower orders in Spitalfields, in point of education?—Their education is much better attended to now than it was some years back.

Are there many poor children without the means of education?—I should suppose about near one half.

How many may there be altogether uneducated?—I should think perhaps about 1500; that is a rough calculation.

Are there any establishments for education?—There is a parochial school, where there are about one hundred and ten children educated, and they attend regularly at the church; and there is a school, called the Protestant Dissenting School, where 100 children are educated: at both those schools they are educated principally upon the old plan, and are annually clothed.

How are the funds provided?—By annual subscriptions, legacies, and donations.

How long have they been established?—The parochial school has been established about 110 years; the Wood-street school 99 years.

What is the annual expence of the parochial school?—I am not aware of that.

Can you give a guess?—No, I cannot. There is some little funded property belonging to the Protestant Dissenting School.

You have read over the evidence given by Mr. Honeyman; do you agree with it?—In the general purport of it I agree; I see he has stated that about 2000 remain uneducated; I should think about 1500; by far the greater part of those who are now educated, are those who are educated in Sunday schools only.

Can you form any conjecture of the proportion between those children who are educated in day schools, and those educated in Sunday schools only?—Four-fifths at least, I should suppose, are educated in Sunday schools only; but in one or two of the Sunday schools they meet one evening in the week, for an hour or two.

Can you give the committee the number of schools who have the custom of meeting one evening in the week?—One of the schools in Raven-row, in which there are about 500 children, and who attend at a place of worship under

the denomination of Methodists, have a meeting once or twice a week. .

The persons who frequent other places of worship, are they conformists with the church of England?—Yes, there are about 150 that attend at the parish church. The great mass of those who are now educated, have been in schools which have been recently established, Sunday schools and other schools upon the Bell and Lancastrian system; and it has had a great effect in bettering the morals of the poor; it has been the practice of the managers of all the schools, the Methodist, the parochial, and all the schools, to make the children attend at their respective places of worship; by those means, a great number of poor children, who were formerly accustomed to spend their time idly in playing about the streets, are now under the necessity of attending at a place of worship; it has not only had an happy influence on their morals, but has been the means of inducing some of the parents of those poor children to go to a place of worship that never attended one before.

Is there sufficient room in the church of the parish to hold the poor?—I should think there is nearly; there are a great number of poor that attend at the parish church, and the rector is constantly in the habit of visiting a number of the poor.

Is there sufficient room in the church to hold the poor, without the aid of other places of worship?—Not for the whole population; there are several chapels in the neighbourhood, not of the established church. I would just observe, but for the increase of those schools, I apprehend that the morals of the people, from one circumstance, would have been much more depraved than formerly, that is, the increase of liquor-shops in the neighbouring parishes all round, by which the poor have been more accustomed to take spirits than formerly; and I have invariably found that whenever they accustom themselves to take spirits, their morals are ruined.

Mr. EDWARD MEYRICK, called in, and Examined.

WHAT are you?—I am treasurer of the parochial school of Christ Church, Spitalfields, which office I have only held for a very few days.

What number of children are educated there?—One hundred and ten.

How is it supported?—By donations, annual subscriptions, charity sermons, and the interest of money in the funds.

That money in the funds arises from bequests?—Yes, and what has been saved out of the subscriptions.

What is the annual expence of the school?—As near as I can judge (I have only the treasurer's book for one year) it was 458l. 10s. for 56 boys and 54 girls.

Are they fed?—No; annually clothed.

Are they sufficiently clothed?—Yes.

Are you acquainted with any other schools in the parish?—Not intimately; we have 246 children educated and clothed in the parish altogether.

Do you know the whole number educated in the parish?—No, I do not exactly; but I should think about 2 or 3,000.

You heard the last witness's account of the proportion between those educated in charity schools and those educated in other ways?—Yes.

Do you think he is correct in stating that 4-5ths received their education at Sunday schools?—I think he was very correct; but a great number of children in Spitalfields are educated in the neighbouring parishes; there are two or three schools upon the borders of the parish, where some of them attend.

Is any sum paid by the parents towards the education of those children?—No.

Do you know any thing of the number of children from your parish, who are educated in the neighbouring parishes?—No, I do not; there appears to be no want of the means of education in our parish, if the parents would send them.

What reason do you give why they do not send them?—Our Sunday schools are not full; and I ought to say, there appears to be a want of inclination on the part of the parents to send them.

By means of education, you mean the means of education in the neighbourhood?—There are means of education in the parish, which they do not take the opportunity of embracing.

What is the reason of their going to the neighbouring parishes?—There are two or three very large schools, upon the Lancasterian plan, upon the borders of the parish.

The Lancasterian method of instruction is not adopted in parish schools?—No, quite in the old way.

Is it adopted at any school within the parish?—No, I believe not.

What is the time that the children usually remain in your school?—Till the age of fourteen, unless they are taken out previously by their parents.

From what age?—From eight to fourteen; and if they conduct themselves well they have a little apprentice fee, something to pay for their indentures, and a Bible and Testament given them.

What becomes of the girls in general?—In general they are put out to service.

The number of poor in your parish is very considerable?—Very considerable, no parish more so.

That extreme poverty must be one cause of the parents not sending their children to school?—I should hope that might be the reason of not sending them to Sunday schools; but I am sorry to say there seems to be very little inclination to exert themselves with respect to providing clothes for their children; we do not want any particular dress, if they are but clean.

Of what nation is the body of poor people of Spitalfields; Irish?—Not a large proportion of them; English generally.

Are there many French names remaining among them?—Yes, but that language is gone.

A great many of those are among the lowest?—Yes, and some among the most respectable.

The Reverend WILLIAM GURNEY, M. A. called in, and Examined.

YOU are rector of Saint Clement Danes?—Yes.

And also minister of the Free Chapel in West-street, Seven-dials?—Yes, licensed minister of the Free Episcopal Chapel.

How long have you been rector of St. Clement Danes?—About seven years.

And during what time have you been minister of the Free Chapel?—Nearly fourteen years.

Are you acquainted with the state of education among the lower orders in those parts of the town?—I know a great deal about it in Saint Giles's, because there I have the greatest establishment for children.

Are there many of the poor children in the parish of Saint Clement's without education?—I should think there are a great many.

Have you any means of giving the committee an estimate of how many there may be?—I do not know that I can mention the number, but a very strict examination has been made by the friends of the Sunday school, in order to ascertain the number of children without education, and to endeavour to bring them to the Sunday school; it was about three years back that the first attempt was made to establish a Sunday school, and the result has been, that we have collected together about 300 children, boys and girls.

What was the result of that examination, as to the state of the poor in point of education?—We found there were a great many who did not go to any school: the reason assigned in some measure for it was, their ragged condition, and their being unfit, from their great poverty, to appear decently at any school; and we found also, that a great many

children went to Sunday schools belonging to dissenters of various denominations, who had begun long before us to open schools; we found there was a very large Sunday school in Drury-lane, in which there were from 5 to 600 children; a very large number of our children, I believe, went there. But there are a great many mendicants in our parish, owing to the extreme lowness of some parts of the neighbourhood, and the more children they have, the more success they meet with in begging, and they keep them in that way; so that in the week-day we could not get them to a day-school without some different measures were adopted; neither are they fit to appear in them as they are; and on a Sunday they get more by begging than they do on any other day in the week, because more people are out and about; we tried the experiment in several instances, by giving clothes to some of the most ragged, in order to bring them decent to school; they appeared for one Sunday or two, and then disappeared, and the clothes disappeared also. We have two charity schools in the parish, besides the Sunday schools I have mentioned.

What foundations are they on?—Voluntary subscriptions: Sixty boys are clothed and educated, properly called the Parish Charity School; and we have an institution for the education and board of twenty females; that is by voluntary subscriptions: it is done by regular votes of the trustees; every subscriber of two guineas is a trustee, and can have a vote; they do not recommend, as in other charities, the cases are all put on a list, that fully explains the number of children in the family, and so on.

Have you any schools upon any regular foundation?—I am not prepared to say there is no school on a foundation; but I am very suspicious there has been some mismanagement: that there was a once a school, which has disappeared.

Was it in consequence of any bequest by will?—That I am not quite certain about; I think it was called The Blue School, but the building was pulled down on the alterations about the church a great many years ago, and I never could get a clear understanding about it: I did make enquiries. Whether the fund arose from any thing that was perishable, and so has fallen down, I cannot tell; but I rather think not; I rather think it has been handed over in some way to the present school; I do not know that it is so, but I rather suspect it is.

Who are the managers of those sixty boys?—The trustees and subscribers of two guineas each; the treasurer is Mr. Johnstone.

What was the size of that Blue School?—Very small, I

believe; yet it was something that, I think, might have been made the foundation for a good school, if we could by any means have raked it out of its ashes; but I rather think there was a building belonging to it, and that it decayed, or was pulled down; it is within the memory of many of the inhabitants. I believe a very considerable sum is spent upon those two schools annually.

Can you form an opinion how much?—Four or five hundred a-year, both of them; the girls are fed and completely clothed.

With the exception of those, you know of no other parish schools within your parish?—No others, that I know of.

Is there any large school in the neighbourhood, to which the poor of your parish go?—That one in Drury-lane, I rather think, is in my parish; there is no other, that I know of, to which any children go, unless they may be of different denominations of christians: there is one, not a parochial school, but within the parish, in New-court, Carey-street, connected with Dr. Winter's chapel there.

How many does it contain? Two or three hundred, or more, I think.

What is the annual expense of your Sunday school?—Very trifling; I have one collection a-year at the church, at which we generally get about 40*l.*; we do not go round to collect, it is a private thing done by the trustees themselves; we have no master or mistress, or any expense of that kind; the teachers are all gratuitous and voluntary; the whole expense consists in the books and rent of the rooms; in fact, now I have by great exertion got part of the vestry for a Sunday, which saves us the expense of paying rent.

Then the whole expense of this school does not exceed sixty or seventy pounds?—Seventy or eighty pounds; we give a good many rewards, according to our funds; and we have a writing school in the week, for the children who behave the best.

What hours do the children attend on a Sunday?—From about half-past eight or nine till twenty minutes before the church service commences in the morning, and again at two till five in the afternoon; we have not proper accommodation at the church for them, that is one great grievance to me; and if we had, we could have four times the number attend the school; we cannot accommodate them at the church, and I am forced to send a detachment of them to another chapel; I wanted to have a gallery erected, and I would have done it without any expense to the parish; two or three charity sermons would have done it.

How long does a child take, at the Sunday school, in learning to read, having no other instruction?—Several

have learnt to read in the course of about eighteen months; we would rather they would stay about two years, so as to be able to read a chapter in the Testament; but others, of course, will take much longer, in consequence of the difference of abilities and attention.

What should you take to be the average period in which a child may be taught to read well and easy, at a Sunday school?—I should prefer two years and a half, if I were to have my choice, and I think in that time they would do.

Has any plan been ever adopted in your school for visiting the children at home?—The teachers, I believe, of every class are expected to look after their children, and to know the reason why they are absent, and to inquire how they behave at home, and to present their account of every child at our monthly meeting.

Do they visit them in cases of sickness?—Yes, that they make a point of doing.

Do you think the plan of visiting the children at home is useful to their families?—No doubt of it.

Do you know what is the general moral character of the children in your school at St. Clement's?—We keep a regular account of their conduct with us, and can, by looking to our books, tell the character of every child that has been in the school from the beginning, as far as we have been able to judge.

When did you take an account of their character?—The teachers take an account, and keep an account regularly; and they bring an account of the conduct of every child at the meeting of the teachers, which I make a point of attending.

Then, you have the progressive improvement of your children entered in your books?—I apprehend so.

Do you know the moral character of the children in the West-street school?—I believe it is as good as that of the character of any other children in London; I am satisfied of it, because I made a strict inquiry myself.

Do you know of any report made from Newgate, of the moral state of the children in charity schools in and about the metropolis?—I did hear of it; and I had a communication made to me in consequence.

Did you ever see any part of that report?—I did.

What is your opinion of it?—I formed my opinion in this way; in the first place, I considered the fountain from whence the report came to be a very bad one, and therefore much to be suspected; in the next place, as the school with which I am connected was particularly marked as one, and knowing that the statements in that account were grossly false, I conceived that it was scarcely

worthy my notice; and therefore I took no further steps than by simply stating, in reply to some questions that were asked me in writing by the committee of investigation, that no such person was ever in the school as they referred to. I should state, there was a boy's name mentioned as having been in our school; the books were examined from the very commencement of the school; for we know every boy and girl that passes through the school, and we know the reason why they went away; and this boy, who stated himself to have been in the school, never was there.

As far as your knowledge goes, do you think there is any just foundation for the statements of that report?—Certainly not, as far as regards my school, in West-street: one great reason for my saying that, is this, that we never suffer any child to continue in the school that is detected in any immoral act.

Have you been able to form an opinion of the practicability of any general plan for the education of the poor?—I do not think there is any difficulty, myself.

You spoke of a bad fountain from whence the report proceeded; to what did you allude?—I referred to the boys who gave that information in Newgate.

Were those boys confined in Newgate as criminals?—Yes, they were.

Did one or more of those boys give information respecting your school?—Yes; there was one boy particularly named, who stated that he had been in the school.

Was it true that that boy had been in the school?—No; I inquired of the master, and he examined the books, and he said that no such name had ever been in the school.

Do you believe that that boy ever was at your school?—Certainly not.

How many are taught at the free school at West-street?—Our number is 400.

When was it established?—It has been established ever since the chapel was opened, or within a year and a half of it; it has been established about twelve years.

Has it always educated as many?—No, at the beginning, of course it did not; it was not upon the same plan exactly then.

How is it supported?—By the parents of the children now; I began it by subscription.

What was the utmost expense it cost when it was upon subscription?—I can hardly tell that, because we clothed 50 children at first, that cost a guinea a head at that time.

What is the expense now?—Two hundred and ten pounds, including every thing; including a donation of ten pounds to the master and mistress, for their services during the year, in addition to their salary.

What is the salary of the master?—Fifty pounds, and his wife thirty pounds.

How much do the children pay?—Nine-pence per calendar month, which they pay beforehand, so that we never lose any thing.

Of what classes are those children?—They are children of industrious labouring mechanics.

Not of the lowest order?—Not of the very lowest order, not of the very raggedest.

Does it consist with your knowledge that in that district there are a great number of uneducated children of the lowest order, and have no means of education?—A great many; I see, I was going to say, hundreds about the streets, when my school is in operation, so that they cannot attend other schools.

At what age do the children come to your school, generally?—We take them as soon as ever the boys have got breeches; we do not consult their age, but their size; we keep them till they are fit to go out; they generally leave us before they are twelve years of age; they are generally five years of age before we take them. I think altogether we have had 4000 children pass through the school during the last eight years; there are about 300 out of the 400 attend regularly, that is a very good proportion; and we are open to all parishes, without distinction.

You confine yourselves to members of the church?—No, we do not, we are quite free; we have several Roman Catholics, and they go with the rest of the children to church.

Do you teach catechism?—Yes, three times a week.

Does not that scare the Catholics?—Not the least.

Is the chapel at which they attend a free chapel?—Yes, the body of it is free for the accommodation of the poor, it is the only free chapel in London, that I know of.

Do you include, in the expense, the rent of the school?—Yes, fifty pounds rent.

With respect to the children going to church chiefly, in the Sunday school at St. Clement's, do you find great difficulty to procure accommodation for those children?—Yes, very great.

Has it a tendency to make those children leave the church, and go to no place of worship or else dissenting meeting-houses?—Yes, I think there is no doubt of it; those who have been some time in the Sunday school, having got into the habit of going to a place of worship, will not be satisfied when they leave school without going to one where they can be accommodated.

Does any plan strike you, by which this defect could be

remedied?—I have thought a great deal of it: I rather think the only way would be, if you can accomplish your object in procuring school-rooms in every parish, suitable in size to the population requiring instruction, to make every one of those schools a chapel for the poor, consecrated regularly as chapels for the poor, to be so used on the Sabbath-Day, or any other time; and, where there are accommodations, for some of the children regularly to attend, as a sample of what is doing in the schools, to the congregation at large; the residue to attend in the chapel with their parents. They have got a school of that description, I think, at Whitechapel, of which the master is a clergyman; he is licensed as a preacher there, and the poor people are allowed to attend there, and there is a very large assembly; and it will always be a shelter for the children after they have quitted the school, as well as while they are in it. In my parish, where there are 12,000 inhabitants, the church, if crowded, might contain nearly 4000, but there are no accommodations in it for the poor, except about twelve benches in the middle aisle.

What are the expenses of West-street school?—The salary to the master was fifty pounds; to the mistress, thirty pounds; rent, fifty pounds; coals and candles, ten pounds; donation for additional services of the master and mistress ten pounds; school expenses, sixty pounds. Those expenses, the committee will observe, include white-washing and repairs, water rate, &c.

Are the children taught upon the National or Lancasterian plan?—They are taught upon a plan upon the principle of both, but in no connection with either. Our catechetical examinations are rather important. I did make a calculation in my own mind of the expense of extending this school to 1200 children, if I had accommodation for them, by which it appears that this number might be educated in the same way for three hundred and eighty pounds a year.

Does this calculation include the increased expense for accommodation?—Yes. I was going to say, that in case schools were prepared in the way suggested, by being afterwards consecrated as places of worship for the poor, in large and populous neighbourhoods, that as there would be many children whose parents perhaps could not pay a penny or three halfpence a week, it might be, by any bill that was brought in, provided that the overseers of the poor for the time being, who distribute the money to the poor to buy provisions, might reserve that penny, in order to pay for those parents who were unable to pay it themselves; that would be doing away any objection which might arise from this idea. You have got 400 children in the neighbourhood

of St. Giles, whose parents can pay nine-pence per month; but perhaps there are 2000 in St. Giles's, whose parents cannot pay that; therefore, what are you to do about the funds; but the funds are so small, they are hardly worth mentioning, even if it was paid by the parish. I am satisfied that in St. Clement's parish, if the parish were obligated to find me a room of that description, that would hold 1000 children, and of course 1500 persons for worship, that that money that is now spent upon the 80 children would educate 1000.

In the parish of St. Clement's, what is the total number of children educated at all the schools, as far as you can estimate?—One thousand and thirty, of whom 950 are only at Sunday schools; and I dare say there are 1000 who are wholly uneducated; besides those who go to different day-schools, being children of more respectable parents.

The Reverend CHARLES McCARTHY called in, and Examined.

YOU are curate of St. Giles's?—Yes.

How long have you held that office?—Eleven years next June.

Are there many children in the parish of St. Giles's, wholly destitute of the means of education?—I should conceive there must be an immense number, the population being so thick.

Can you form any estimate of the number in that parish without the means of education?—It has not been in my power to form any estimate at all, because my time is chiefly taken up by parochial duties, being the only curate in the parish.

Is there any parochial school, upon any foundation, within the parish of St. Giles?—Not that I know of.

Do you know of their having been one?—There is a school now building in the neighbourhood of the church, which may be called a foundation.

From your intercourse with the lower orders in that parish, do you perceive any disinclination to send their children to school?—Not generally; there are a variety of applications made for admission into our charity school; I believe there are a great many on the books for admission in their turn now.

Are there many more applications than those schools could admit?—I should think there must be a great many more.

During the eleven years you have been curate, should you say the morals of the lower orders in your parish have improved?—I think the face of the general appearance of

the parish has improved within that time; there is not so great an appearance of vice as there used to be.

Is there a greater or less appearance of distress and misery among the lower orders?—The appearance of misery is much the same; you find it in one part of the parish to a considerable degree, in the neighbourhood of Drury-lane, for instance; there are shocking places there.

When you say that the appearance of vice has diminished, to what vice do you refer?—I refer going to gin-shops and public-houses, and fornications, and all those kind of things, which were very common in our parish.

Are the habits of the lower orders less filthy than they were formerly, or about the same?—I do not think we see quite so many as there were when I first came to the parish, but still there are a vast number of lamentable objects about the streets.

Mr. THOMAS COOKE, called in, and Examined.

WHAT is your occupation?—A tailor, in Bloomsbury.

Are you acquainted with the schools in the parish of St. Giles?—Tolerably well.

Are there any charitable foundations for education there? Not any others that I know of, except the parochial school.

Is there not a free school?—Not that I know of.

What is this parochial school?—It is for the clothing and education of 101 boys, and for the board, clothing and education of 60 girls; the original foundation was for 70 girls, but it was only, when it was first established, for educating and clothing them, but from time to time they have been taken in, and for a considerable time it remained at 35.

What are the funds?—The funds are considerable, and the expenditure, I think, as far as I can recollect, was 2,000*l.* a year, if not upwards; I am one of the trustees; there was a committee for auditing the accounts and making a balance sheet, and I drew the balance sheet myself.

How is that fund raised?—By charity sermons, by annual subscriptions, and donations, which are very considerable: we have a fund of 10,000*l.* reduced, and 500*l.* in the 4 per cents.

How was this fund raised?—By subscriptions from one to two guineas, and legacies.

Is there any will, directing any money to be applied in a particular way?—There are two legacies in reversion now coming due to the charity; we have had one fell in, which amounted to 150*l.*

How long has this school been established?—Ever since the year 1706.

Has the fund been accumulating?—It has been very

trifling till within these few years. When we took those twenty-five additional girls, it was found to be as many as the house could conveniently hold, and we had beds and every increased appendage to raise, and the consequence was, that several gentlemen in the parish took an active part; indeed we went round almost from house to house, to increase the subscriptions, by which means we raised a very considerable sum.

Is it confined to St. Giles and St. George Bloomsbury?—

Yes. This class of children are rather above the lower orders; our rules may perhaps be considered strict in some respects, because we do not admit any children who receive parochial aid; things of that sort have crept in by some false statements of the parents, but it is our rule not to admit any who receive parochial aid.

Is the building your own property?—Yes, it is; we are on the Duke of Bedford's estate.

Where is the building?—In Bloomsbury church-yard, and extends into Queen-street Bloomsbury.

What is the salary paid to the schoolmaster?—80*l.* a year, and 40*l.* to his assistant.

The mistress?—I think she has 30*l.*

Has she any assistant?—No.

Are there any other persons employed, servants of any sort?—None but one household servant, who has 12 guineas a year; the children take the office of performing the duties of servants, housemaids for instance occasionally; they are all brought up in that way, and the rest of their time is devoted to needlework, unless the necessary time for taking air.

Has the schoolmistress board as well as lodging?—Yes.

Has the schoolmaster and his assistant?—No, he has coals and candles.

Is he lodged?—Yes.

Is his assistant lodged?—No.

Can you give the committee any account of what the rest of the expenses amount to: for the committee have only before them an account of 170*l.*?—I think the expenses for board for the girls were 690*l.* I would explain, that there are five quarters, we pair our accounts quarterly, and they all come into this year together, which make a considerable difference: the last year was less; we had not money in the hands of the treasurer to pay the last debts.

What do you think is the average annual expense?—1700*l.* at least.

What does the other 930*l.* go for?—There is the boys' clothing and the girls' clothing; then there are for books, stationery, and printing. I think that amounted to upwards

of 100*l*. In fact, our object was, not only to take in those additional girls, but to increase our funds if we could, and to take in the other ten girls; it was considered we were doing so much better for the girls than before; they had intercourse with their parents, and there was little or no progress, the bad corrupted those that were better.

How are the children elected into this school?—We consider it one of the best in London for the girls: they are elected once a quarter, and they must have been upon the books a given length of time, they must have remained in the parish ever since their first entering upon the books, and they must have been twelve months in the parish before their entry upon the books for examination; the girls are not admitted into the school under ten, some of them learn to read before they come: it was considered at that time the best calculated to take them from their dissolute parents, the girls particularly, and they are not kept in after fourteen, unless by a special leave.

Who elects them?—The trustees; a list is taken of the children to be admitted, and there are in general four or five vacancies a quarter, then we take the eldest of them, or else they would be superannuated if they were taken in rotation.

Does any body recommend them?—The parents apply, and the name is put down, and it stands upon the book till the time of election comes.

Are there any fundamental rules which the trustees could not vary, in the management of this school?—I should think they could not vary them.

What prevents them from varying them?—I do not know of any endowment, it is true.

Have they ever varied from the year 1706?—I think but very little; I believe the first origin of the girls coming in was, that some gentleman or lady left a sum of money; it was an idea that suggested itself to them, that it would be much better to take the girls, and board them.

How many legacies altogether have been left to the school?—I should think there must be three hundred in number.

Any large sums?—Some 100*l*. and sometimes 200*l*. or 300*l*.

Are those legacies left upon condition of lodging and boarding a certain number of girls, or any other condition?—I believe they have been left merely to the charity school of St. Giles and St. George Bloomsbury, except where, as I before stated, it was left upon condition of taking in one or two girls.

Does that apply to many?—No, very few indeed.

Has any discussion ever taken place among the trustees at any time, respecting the propriety of changing any of the rules?—Never; but I think it would be well received if it was.

What would be the objection to discussing any such proposed improvement?—I do not think there would be any objection to the discussion of it.

Suppose it was stated, that by boarding and clothing a smaller number of children, a fund would be left free for educating from 1000 to 1500 children at present wholly destitute of the means of education, what objection would there be on the part of the trustees to entertaining such a proposition?—The objection would be this; that it has always been held out, that so far from diminishing the number we now board, we ought to increase it to the original number that the school was raised for.

Do you mean, then, that the objection would be, that the proposed change is a departure from the plan adopted in 1706?—I think it would entirely; a great deal of exertion was made to raise this money, and it would not have been raised if it had not been for the board of these twenty-five additional girls. The Bishop of Chichester gave us 100*l.* for this express purpose, and he increased his subscription; Dr. Wallis the rector did the same, he did not give us the same sum of money, he increased his subscription, and I think he doubled it; and there are many people in the parish who did the same.

What becomes of those girls, generally speaking, at the age of fourteen?—They are generally got into servitude by the attention of the ladies and trustees, who on seeing them, and knowing them to be well brought up, may suppose they would be an acquisition in any family; they are brought up as servants, and expected they will do their duty as such.

Have you and the rest of the trustees ever attended to what became of those girls when they left the school?—We have, sometimes; it has been a greater consideration so to attend to it within these few years, than it was formerly, when we had a day school in the house.

How many in the day school used you to have?—The number was always seventy, and of course the fewer there were boarders, the greater number of day-scholars. I think in the year 1795 there were but thirty children boarders, consequently we had forty day-scholars.

With respect to the one hundred and one boys, are they day-scholars?—Yes.

Clothed as well as educated?—Yes.

What is the expense of clothing those boys per annum?—I cannot speak to that exactly, I should think it was not so much as three hundred pounds; the cloth comes from Leeds, and is made up by a person in the neighbourhood, who does it very cheap indeed.

You having accommodations of every sort for a day school, supposing it were proposed, that instead of clothing a hundred boys, you were to educate eight hundred, which might be done at the same cost; what would be the objection?—I fancy it would be still the same, that it is not the purpose for which the money was first solicited; and I think the consequence would be, that a great many subscriptions would be withdrawn.

Do you think a great proportion of subscriptions would be withdrawn if such a use was made?—I think it would. I was going to observe, that Dr. Bell's plan was wished by some to be introduced; Sir John Nicholl was the first who proposed it, and Dr. Bell came; but we passed a rule, that so much of the plan should be introduced as was convenient; in fact, it all might have been introduced; I was the principal one who supported it, but there were so few to support me, that it was not persisted in. The master was not sent to be regularly trained, nor any of the children; they did go once or twice; in my opinion it did not seem to meet the master's own ideas, and we could not compel them to do it; it was impossible for any one individual who was in business to go through with it.

You have said, that there are two masters: would not the Bell or Lancasterian system save one of those teachers?—I have always said so myself; I am convinced of it, from what I have seen.

Suppose it were proposed, that without any alteration respecting the girls, or any alteration respecting the one hundred and one boys at present taught and clothed, and retaining the master and his assistant, but only making them teach upon the new method, 1200 boys should be taught, that is to say 1100 taught only, and 101 as formerly taught and clothed; what objection would the trustees or subscribers be likely to make this change?—I should think none, if we had accommodation.

How many is your school capable of accommodating now?—Very few more than it at present has.

Would any objection be made to paying for an additional school-room, or of employing a part of the fund now vested in stocks, in enlarging the present premises?—I think there would.

Are the objections to which you have referred, to be apprehended from the trustees only, or from the subscribers also?—The trustees are the organs of the institution, and they and the subscribers meet four times a year.

The restrictions on the introduction of Bell's plan was on the part of the trustees and the master, and not of the subscribers?—I cannot take upon myself to say that that was the case; the trustees meet once a fortnight for the conduct of the school generally.

How many are they?—They amount to a great many, but seldom from above ten to twelve attend.

Are they chosen by the subscribers?—The trustees are constituted by being two guinea subscribers, or above that; but then there are eight elective trustees out of the body of subscribers, who are summoned to do the business by the other trustees.

How many subscribers are there altogether?—I am sure I cannot say; I think about five or six hundred at least; I may say more than that. The amount of our subscriptions collected in one year was eight or nine hundred pounds.

How many trustees may there be altogether?—I should think there must be about one-sixth or one-eighth of the number of subscribers.

Are there any salaries besides those to the schoolmaster, mistress and assistants?—There is a singing-master for the children, and for charity sermons; and he provides the music and hymns; he has only ten guineas a year.

The treasurer has no salary?—None whatever.

Are children of all sects admitted indiscriminately?—No, only of the church of England; I think not.

How do you know that; do you find out from the parents?—From the parents; before the child is admitted, whether boy or girl, there is a committee of trustees appointed to go and make the necessary inquiries.

Whether they are Dissenters or Methodists?—Whether they are of the established church; and there are several other little things to inquire into, whether they have received parochial aid, for instance.

Of what standing is that rule, of not receiving any child that has not received parochial aid; in your own time?—I cannot precisely say; there was an alteration took place in the rules and orders about three or four years ago, and that was one which was more strictly enforced. It was considered it was for a more respectable class, equally distressed, or perhaps more distressed than those who go to the parish for relief; that they struggled against the difficulties of the times, and were not willing to go to the parish for relief.

Do you know any thing of the Gower school, lately established by subscription?—No, I do not.

The Bedford school?—No.

The workhouse school?—That I knew something of, when I was overseer.

Do you know of any other establishments for education in Bloomsbury or St. Giles's?—There is one Sunday school in Gate-street.

Do you know of any other Sunday school besides that?—No, I do not; there are not so many poor in our parish as in St. Giles's.

Sabbati, 25^o die Maii, 1816.

HENRY BROUGHAM, Esq. in the Chair.

Mr. DANIEL BEAUMONT, called in, and Examined.

WHAT are you?—I am treasurer of the Saint George's Bloomsbury school.

How long have you held that office?—About two years and a half.

From whence do the funds of that school arise?—From voluntary subscriptions and donations.

Including bequests?—Yes.

What are the annual expenses of the establishment, one year with another?—I should suppose near 1000l. a year.

Is that a correct copy of the audit of the accounts of that school, ending the 13th of April, 1815? [*handing a paper to the witness.*—It is.

[It was read as follows:]

**Audit of the Annual Account of the Charity School of St. Giles in the Fields and St. George, Bloomsbury, to
13th April, 1815.**

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MINUTES OF EVIDENCE [Mr. Beaumont.

Dr.	RECEIPTS:		DISBURSEMENTS:		Cr.
	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	
Annual bequest, Dr. Carter	-	10 0 0	Boys' clothing	-	62 12 0
Legacy of Daniel Herne, esq. deducting	-	18 0 0	Girls' ditto	-	21 18 2
£2 duty	-	144 4 10	Shoes and Pattens	-	70 12 0
Donations	-	102 7 8½	Hosiery	-	52 16 6
Girls' work	-	312 18 0½	Stationery, books, and printing	-	488 13 8
Collections at charity sermons	-	259 4 0	Coals	-	64 9 1
Dividends on bank stock	-	1,145 2 6	Candles, soap, &c.	-	43 19 3
Subscriptions	-	185 1 3	Repairs	-	156 10 4½
Rent, and recovery of dilapidations from school-house in King-street	-	192 3 8	Apprentice fee	-	2 2 0
Sale of Exchequer bill, and interest	-	208 13 10¼	Water tax	-	3 3 0
Balance in the treasurer's hands upon audit 1814	-	-	Disbursements for girls' board	-	634 0 1½
			Purchase of stock	-	263 10 0
			Ditto of three exchequer bills	-	308 15 10
			Master and mistress's disbursements	-	65 6 11
			Salaries, poundage, &c.	-	228 4 10
			Linen and haberdashery	-	136 18 9½
			Incidental expenses	-	38 9 6

Note.

Tradesmen's Bills to the 1st April remain unpaid, amounting to £207 17 6
The dividend due 5th April on 10,000l. reduced annuities, has not yet been received by the treasurer 150 0 0
The return of the property tax for the year 1814, remains due to the charity 28 16 0

Dr. Carter's annual bequest, due at Christmas last, has not yet been received - - - 10 0 0
 Mrs. Thompson's annual bequest is now due - - - 5 0 0
 Twenty-six boys, and eighteen girls have been admitted into the school during the last year; £400 has been purchased into the three per cent. reduced annuities in the course of the last year; and two exchequer bills remain in the hands of the treasurer.

					21 4 0
Ground rent, and insurance	-	-	-	-	
Law expenses in recovering rent of house in King-street	-	-	-	-	47 8 0
Furniture	-	-	-	-	49 19 0
					<hr/>
					2,460 13 0½
					47 2 10
					<hr/>
Balance in the Treasurer's hands					
					<hr/>
					£ 2,507 15 10½
					<hr/>
					<hr/>
					£ 2,507 15 10½
					<hr/>

FUND of the Charity Schools of Saint Giles in the Fields, and St. George Bloomsbury, as stated at the Annual General Meeting on Friday, the 14th April, 1815.

In the reduced three per cent. annuities, standing in the names of Rev. Dr. John Buckner Lord Bishop of Chichester, Rector of St. Giles in the Fields; Rev. Dr. Thomas Willis, Rector of St. George, Bloomsbury; William Bray, Esq.; and Daniel Beaumont, Esq. of Great Russell street, Bloomsbury, Treasurer	£10,000
In the Navy 5 per cents. standing in the names of ditto	100
Two Exchequer Bills (1,309 and 1,310)	200
Annual rent of the school-house in King-street	45
Dr. Carter's annual bequest of	10
Mrs. Thompson's ditto	5

The following legacies are left in reversion :

By the will of Mr. Thomas Edwards, on the death of Mr. John Evans, in the four per cents.	150
By will of Mr. Richard Chappell, on the death of Mrs. Chap- pell, 20l. sterling	20
By will of Mr. Griffin Edwards, on the death of Mrs. Ann Read, (now Long) in the three per cents	50

This account was audited on the 13th April, 1815, by the
finance committee.

JOHN LUSH, Secretary.

Is that the balance of the accounts for the year ending
April 19, 1816? [*handing a paper to the witness.*—It was.

[It was read as follows:]

Audit of the Annual Account of the Charity Schools of Saint Giles in the Fields, and Saint George Bloomsbury, April 19, 1816.

Dr.	RECEIPTS:	£.	s.	d.
Balance in the Treasurer's hands	April 13, 1813	47	2	9½
Ditto from the master, on disbursements	Ditto	0	10	3
Annual bequest, Dr. Carter		9	19	6
Ditto, Mrs. Thompson		5	0	0
Legacy of Mrs. Jane Thomas, deducting duty		90	0	0
Ditto, Mrs. Sarah Savage, ditto		27	0	0
Interest accruing on the reversionary legacy of Thomas Edwards		8	2	0
Donations		32	5	10
Subscriptions		963	18	0
Charity sermons		298	9	5
Girls' work		92	12	1½
Dividends		486	12	0
Rent of old school-house in King-street		29	16	0
Sale of two hundred pound exchequer bills, and interest		203	19	1

Note.

The return of property tax for half a year, to April, 1816, remain due to the charity £16 4 0

Dr. Carter's annual bequest, due at Christmas, 1815, has not yet been received 10 0 0

Mrs. Thompson's ditto, to Lady-day, 1816, is now due 5 0 0

Half-year's rent of old school-house to Christmas last 20 16 0

Thirty-one boys and fifteen girls have been admitted into the school during the last year.

£450 has been purchased into the four per cent. bank annuities in the course of last year.

£150 four per cent. bank annuities (being Mr. Thomas Edwards's legacy, left in reversion in 1792) has been transferred into the names of the trustees of the charity fund.

£ 2,286 7 0

Audit of the Annual Account of the Charity School of St. Giles in the Fields, and St. George Bloomsbury, to 19th April, 1816.—
Continued.

DISBURSEMENTS :	Cr.	£.	s.	d.
Boys' clothing		126	16	11
Girls' ditto		51	0	0
Shoes and Pattens		102	9	0
Hosiery		47	2	10
Stationery, books, and printing		104	5	11
Coals		59	15	9
Candles and Soap		33	3	9
Repairs		40	1	1
Apprentice fees		8	8	0
Water tax and legacy duty		9	19	6
Disbursements for girls' board		692	19	4
Purchase of stock		325	6	3
Master and mistress's disbursements		87	16	7
Salaries, poundage, &c.		218	17	8
Linen and haberdashery		94	19	6
Incidental and house expences		78	8	6
Ground rent, and insurance		32	18	3
Law expenses		27	10	9
Furniture		3	15	0
Cash advanced to master and mistress for disbursements		10	0	0
		£ 2,155 12 9		
Balance in hands of the treasurer -		130	14	3
		£ 2,286 7 0		

FUND of the Charity Schools of Saint Giles in the Fields, and St. George Bloomsbury, as stated at the Annual General Meeting on Friday, the 19th April, 1816.

In the reduced 3l. per cent. annuities, standing in the names of Rev. Dr. John Buckner, Lord Bishop of Chichester, Rector of Saint Giles in the Fields; Rev. Dr. Thomas Willis, Rector of St. George, Bloomsbury; W. Bray, Esq. and D. Beaumont, Esq. of Great Russell street, Bloomsbury, Treasurer	£10,000
In the four per cent. bank annuities, standing in the names of ditto	600
Annual rent of the school-house in King street	45
Dr. Carter's annual bequest of	10
Mrs. Thompson's ditto	5
The following Legacies are left in Reversion:	
By the will of Mr. Richard Chappell, on the death of Mrs. Chappell, 26l. sterling	20
By the will of Mr. Griffin Edwards, on the death of Mrs. Ann Read (now Long) in the three pence	50

The committee see here, in the audit for 1815, salaries, poundage, &c. two hundred and twenty-eight pounds; of what do those salaries consist?—To the principal master, and to the usher.

Do you always attend the meetings of the trustees?—Whenever I have leisure.

Mr. THOMAS COOKE, again called in, and Examined.

WHAT is the salary of the master of this school?—80l. and the usher 40l.; mistress, 30l. 5s.; the singing master, for teaching the children, 10l. 10s.; the servant's wages twelve guineas; the rest arises in the poundage to the collector, he has ninepence in the pound; the poundage in the last audit amounts to about forty-three pounds.

The committee see in these accounts, you purchased from 300l. to 500l. a year stock?—We have done so within these last two or three years, not so much previous; in 1816 it was 325l. in 1815 it was 263l. in 1814 it was 288l.

According to this, you have a larger yearly income than covers your expenses?—Yes, certainly; we wish to take in the other ten girls, when we have an opportunity.

The incidental expenses amount to about 70l.?—I will explain that; that has arisen by turnery, for brushes and brooms, and articles from the tinman's and the brazier's and ironmonger's; this year the incidental expenses amounted to a good deal, in consequence of two or three of the children being ill and going into the country, and I think two of them were buried there.

What compels the society to board and lodge, instead of merely educating?—I do not know.

Have you a copy of your rules?—That is it [*handing in a paper*]; I inquired of Mr. Davies this morning, who is one of the oldest attendants at the meetings, and he said, he believed it arose merely from the idea of certain persons at that time of day, who thought it better to take the females out of the street, and that it would be a great advantage, both by relieving their parents and keeping the morals of the children better; that has been carried on from time to time as our funds would admit of it.

How many children of the lower order, altogether, are educated at those schools?—About eight hundred.

Are any of those Sunday schools?—The Gate-street school, I believe, is not solely a Sunday school, there are instructions given there every other day.

Do you know how many Gate-street school educates?—No, I do not. In the united parishes of St. George and St. Giles, I mentioned yesterday, with regard to the children of Roman Catholic parents, that we did not educate them; I have since found that we do.

Did you not state yesterday, you admitted none but those of the established church?—I think I did, that was the rule once, but we do not apprentice them to any other but those of the established church; they are not excluded because they are Roman Catholics or dissenters, but they are obliged to conform to the regulations of the school while they are in it.

Mr. RICHARD MURPHY, called in, and Examined.

ARE you one of the trustees of this school?—I am.

What other office do you hold?—I occasionally officiate as secretary.

What do you apprehend obligates the trustees to continue the plan of boarding and lodging, instead of confining their school merely to education?—I am not aware of any reason.

Suppose that, instead of clothing the boys, a proposition was made to the trustees to educate a much larger number upon one of the new plans of education; what reception do you apprehend such a proposition would meet with?—I have no doubt it would be very fairly discussed.

Are you aware of any thing which renders it impossible to make any alteration, of this or any other description, in the plan of the school?—We are very confined for room.

Suppose that that difficulty was got over, are you aware of any thing in the fundamental rules of the society, or any condition under which the legacies have been bequeathed to it, which prevent the change in the management?—No, I am not.

Do you know of any legacies left upon the condition that a certain number of girls should be boarded and clothed?—No, I do not.

Do you know what is the amount of the largest legacy ever left to the school?—No, I cannot say.

Do you recollect any change ever having been made in the management of the school?—No.

Do you mean it has continued ever since the year 1705 as it is now?—It has, with the variation of the number of girls; the number of girls educated was at one period the same as our boys, an hundred and one.

What period was that?—Whether it was absolutely so, or not, I cannot say, but it appeared so by a paper I put my hand upon last night.

When did that change take place; when were they reduced from an hundred to thirty?—I cannot say that was the case; it appeared so upon the face of that paper.

The number has at different times been as low as twenty or thirty?—Yes, on the house establishment.

Did that variation take place from the state of the funds, or from a change in the system of the school?—I beg to observe, that I believe it was from our situation that we thought we could do more general good by taking the girls wholly away from their parents, than by having an extended number distributed about in the street after they quit the school.

At the time the number of girls were diminished, was the number of boys increased?—I believe they have always continued the same.

Mr. WILLIAM CARMICHAEL, called in, and Examined.

HAVING heard the examination of Messrs. Cooke, Beaumont, and Murphy, have you any thing to add to the information given by them, upon the points to which they have been examined?—Not any thing.

Do you adopt any of the new plans of education?—No, not any.

Have you any assistant?—I have one.

How many could you, upon your present plan of teaching; instruct, in addition to the 101 now under your care?—I have got the girls as well to teach writing, they have a schoolmistress for reading.

Do you apprehend that in addition to those whom you now teach, you could instruct a greater number upon the plan you now teach upon?—No, I do not think I could, to do them justice.

At what age are the boys admitted under your care?—Not under eight, and the girls at ten.

How long do the boys remain under your care?—Till they attain the age of fourteen, unless they are taken out by their parents previously.

What are they taught?—Reading, writing, and arithmetic.

How many hours a-day are they at school?—From eight in the morning, in the summer, till twelve, and then from two to five in the afternoon; in winter, from nine to twelve, and from two to four in the afternoon.

What are their occupations at the time when they are not taught by you?—They go home to their parents.

Have you any other occupation yourself, besides school-master?—Not any thing.

How soon does a boy, coming into the school at eight years old, and ignorant of reading, learn to read completely well?—Some boys will learn more in six months than others in six years.

Should you say two years was a fair time?—A very fair time for a boy of competent understanding.

What does such a boy do during the remaining four years that he is under your tuition?—Learn writing and arithmetic.

Do you not think six years a long period for a boy to learn only reading, writing, and arithmetic?—It depends a great deal upon the capacity of the boy, it will not be sufficient time for some.

Suppose the case of a boy of good capacity perfecting himself in three or four years in those different branches, how does he occupy the remainder of his time?—We have not met with any instances of that kind, I have only been there two years.

Do you observe any improvement in the morals of the boys after they come to school?—Yes, we certainly see them improve in that respect; every attention is paid to them; we cannot see what they do at home, but at school we make them conform to our rules.

Do the boys at eight or nine years old, when they come to you, know any thing of reading?—Some do, and some do not.

Do some come who are wholly ignorant?—Yes, they do.

What are the number of boys that left the school last year, and have been apprenticed?—Four.

What became of the other boys?—They have other employments: some were taken out of the school.

Mr. FREDERICK TURNER, called in, and Examined.

HAVE you the custody of any of the papers belonging to Bloomsbury school?—Yes, I have

From your knowledge of those papers, can you inform the committee whether there is any considerable amount of

legacies left, on the condition that a certain number of girls should be boarded, educated, and clothed?—I should think not, from frequent discussion having taken place as to the change in the mode of conducting the establishment.

Is there any play-ground for the children?—There is none.

Are you acquainted with the premises occupied by the girls' school?—I am.

Is there any play-ground there?—No, there is none; there is part of the churchyard in which I have occasionally seen some of the children playing, but there is no regular play-ground attached to the establishment. The boys are not in the house; they are only instructed.

Are the girls chiefly confined to the house?—The girls have been a great deal confined to the house; and there was a specific order made, that the mistress should take them out occasionally.

Has that been complied with?—It has; we thought they were confined too much in sedentary employments.

Are the rooms confined; do they want ventilation?—No, they do not; the house is very spacious, and well conducted in its various details.

Does the matron receive any benefit from the earnings of the children?—I apprehend not; I believe she brings forward the money to account: they are a great deal employed, I know.

Does any person regularly accompany the children, when they walk out after school hours?—Always; they never go out without an attendant; at least, I have never seen them out without.

Have you reason to believe that, since the new regulation, the children have had regular exercise?—I believe they have; I have frequently seen them out myself.

The Rev. TINDALL THOMPSON WALMSLEY, called in, and Examined.

YOU are secretary to the National Society?—I am; and have been so nearly from its commencement, except about a couple of months.

It is wholly supported by voluntary contributions and donations?—Wholly.

What is the amount of your funds; how much money have you altogether?—As to our funds, I am sorry to say we were obliged to tell the public that they were totally dilapidated; we made a fresh appeal, and I am happy to say with some success.

Can you tell the committee how much money you have received, from your commencement?—From the establish-

ment of the society in 1811, to the beginning of June, 1815, the whole sum was rather more than 24,000*l.* the greater part of which had then been applied in the erection and enlargement of buildings for schools; since that time we have received an additional six thousand pounds, in consequence of a strong appeal made to the public on the exhausted state of our resources.

How much is your income in annual subscriptions?—I should suppose about 2,000*l.* a year.

The regular subscriptions, or including casual donations?—No, annual subscriptions only.

How many schools have been erected since the beginning?—There is only the National School we have erected altogether.

Where is that?—Baldwin's-gardens, Gray's-Inn-lane.

How many schools have you contributed towards the erection or extension of?—Up to June, 1815, a hundred and twenty-two schools have been erected or enlarged by the partial assistance of the National Society, in sums from 15*l.* to 500*l.*; considerable supplies of elementary books have been furnished; 336 masters, and 86 mistresses, have been trained in the principles and practice of the national system, and are now, with few exceptions, conducting important schools in town and country; whilst a succession of masters has also been kept in constant pay at the Central School, for the purpose of being sent out wherever their services were required for the formation of new or the regulation of old establishments; and, lastly, besides that great number of children who have already quitted the different National schools after having received a competent share of instruction, more than a hundred thousand children are actually returned to the committee, as at this time under a course of education in 570 schools formally united to the National Society. Since that period, I should think about 140 schools have been united, in addition to that, 570.

Do you include in the above calculation the Sunday schools established in different parts of the country?—Yes.

Do you include the Sunday schools in different parts of the country, and which existed previous to the formation of the National Society?—That I can only speak to from some of those having previously existed separately; some of them are now united to us.

Can you give the committee any estimate of the number of new schools established by the assistance of the National Society since 1811?—No, I cannot.

You cannot tell, then, how many, of the 122 schools you have helped, are new?—No, I cannot indeed.

What grants of money have been made to schools or so-

cities in the year ending 1814?—With the permission of the committee, I will deliver in a list, as contained in the report of that year.

[It was read, as follows:]

Grants of Money made by the National Society to Diocesan and District Societies, and Schools in union with it, since the Annual General Meeting, 2nd June, 1813, up to June, 1814.

£.	£.
150 to Bingley, Yorkshire.	15 to Old Windsor.
100 to Dalton, Yorkshire.	100 to St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.
300 to Sheffield, Yorkshire.	100 to Chesterfield, Derbyshire.
30 to Moulton, Northamptonshire.	100 to St. Martin's-in-the-Fields (additional.)
25 to Sidbury, Devonshire.	100 to Bromley, Kent.
80 to Billingshurst, Sussex.	100 to Nottingham.
50 to East Retford, Nottinghamshire.	30 to Bangor.
25 to Cowfold, Sussex.	100 to Feversham, Kent.
30 to Mile-End Old Town.	100 to Southminster, Essex.
50 to Nayland, Suffolk.	31 10s. to Aylsham, Norfolk.
80 to Isleworth.	200 to Macclesfield, Cheshire.
50 to Witham, Essex.	100 to Carlisle.
50 to Penshurst, Kent.	30 to Fornet, Norfolk.
16 to Ilton, Somersetshire.	100 to Acton Burnell, Shropshire.
100 to St. Saviour's, Borough.	300 to Leicester.
100 to Eltham, Kent.	50 to Guildford, Surrey.
100 to Deal, Kent.	300 to Halifax, Yorkshire.
200 to Leeds, Yorkshire.	20 to Yarcomb, Devonshire.
100 to Wandsworth.	100 to Ratcliff, in Stepney Parish.
100 to Winterborne, near Bristol.	
100 to Hungerford, Berks.	

When the society makes a grant of money to a school, or district society, what conditions does it impose?—That it should follow the National system in teaching, as to mechanism; and the children be instructed in the liturgy and the catechism of the church of England; and that they constantly attend divine service in their parish church or other place of public worship under the establishment, wherever the same is practicable, on the Lord's day, unless such reason for their non-attendance be assigned as shall be satisfactory to the persons having the direction of that school, and that no religious tracts be admitted into any school, but such as are or shall be contained in the catalogue of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge.

Do you inquire from time to time into the progress of those schools?—Not regularly; but occasionally we require them to send annual reports of their proceedings, and of the state of the schools.

Besides the school in Baldwin's-gardens, what other schools are there in the metropolis connected with your society?—The Westminster National free school, to which we gave 500*l*.

How many children are educated there?—A thousand children it was built for.

How many are actually educated there?—That I cannot say.

Do you know how it is supported?—By voluntary subscriptions, I believe, or contributions.

What others are there?—The next is St. Martin's in the Fields school, to that we have given 200*l*.

How many are educated there?—It is intended for 500.

What others are there?—The next we assisted was the Whitechapel school; we gave them 500*l*. towards building.

For how many children?—For a thousand children.

How many are educated?—Near that number, I believe. To the St. Saviour's Co-operating Society we gave 100*l*. for enlarging and altering, and also for a new school.

For how many?—About 300, I believe.

How many are educated there?—I do not know, indeed.

What others?—There is Mile End Old Town school, to which we gave 30*l*. I believe.

Is that a new school?—It is for 400, of whom 360 are actually under instruction. The next is Limehouse school for 220 boys and 120 girls, and they have just began to build an additional room for the girls; we gave them, I think, 200*l*.; that was one of the grants of last year, in addition to 100*l*. we gave them before. These comprise all the grants made to schools in the metropolis.

Besides those schools which you have assisted with money, what schools are there in connexion with you in the metropolis?

[The witness delivered in the following paper.]

SCHOOLS in LONDON, united to the NATIONAL SOCIETY:

	Intended and fitted for.	Actually attended by.
National School, Baldwin's Gardens	1000 Children	800
Westminster ditto	1000	670
Three City of London auxiliary schools	900	711
St. Saviour's, in the Borough	113	113
Bedford girl's school	100	100
St. Martin's in-the-Fields	500	500
Mary-le-bone	540	540
St. Dunstan's West, Sunday school	100	100
Bishopsgate, daily and Sunday	280	280
St. George the Martyr	(number not known.)	

Offertory School, St. James's				
Whitechapel parochial	-	-	200	- - 200
Whitechapel (society)	-	-	1000	- - 564
Gower's Walk	-	-	260	- - 260
Mile-End Old Town	-	-	360	- - 360
Ratcliffe	-	-	(number not known)	65
Limehouse National	-	-	360	- - 360
Ditto Charity	-	-	350	- - 350
Hackney	{	Charity school	350	- - 350
		School of Industry	58	- - 58
		Stamford Hill School	30	- - 30
		St. John's Chapel ditto	90	- - 90
Farringdon Ward within	-	about	100	- - 100
Aldgate Ward school	-	-	130	- - 130
Bishopsgate Charity School, which the governors thing of enlarging	-	-	100	- - 100

Of this list, there are seven, to which the society has lent no pecuniary assistance : those seven are, the Mary-le-bone charity school for the education of, I think, about 500 children.

Is that a new school?—An old school, which has adopted our mode of teaching. The next are the three London Auxiliary National schools.

In what parts are they?—Shoe-lane, Fleet-street, and another in Coleman-street buildings.

How many children are there in Shoe-lane school?—About 200.

How many in Coleman-street school?—I believe about 500; and in the third school, situate in Old Fish-street, 200.

Do you mean that those several numbers actually attend?—The schools are formed for that, and I believe they do.

Are those three new or old schools?—The Fish-street school is an old charity school, the other two are both new.

What are the funds of that charity school?—Subscriptions.

No funded property?—To that in Fish-street I believe there is, because it is an old foundation.

What others are there, besides those four?—The last is the Farringdon Ward Within charity school.

For how many?—I think about 80 boys at present.

Is that an old charity?—An old ward school reformed, and by adopting this system, they are enabled to take in a larger number.

How was the change effected, of introducing the National system into that school?—The school was originally established for 70 boys and 30 girls, all of whom were clothed; it occurred to the committee for the management of that school, that it would be extremely desirable to

avail themselves of this new method of teaching, for the purpose of giving instruction to an increased number of children, without at all departing from the original institution, as you may say, of the school, merely clothing a given number; and I believe now the plan is to select from the general mass of the boys those who behave best, and to clothe them.

Has this increased the expense of the establishment?—The only increase has been by making some little alteration in the internal management of the school, and by this alteration a great deal of lumber was removed.

How is it supported?—By subscriptions; and I believe they have a little money in the funds.

Was there any original foundation?—I do not believe there was.

How long has that been established?—Certainly above a century.

What are the two other schools?—The ward of Aldgate is one.

For how many is that?—I may say a hundred at least.

When was the National system introduced into that school?—Within this twelvemonth.

Is that supported in the same way?—Yes.

What is the third school?—The ward of Bishopsgate.

For how many is that?—That is founded, I believe, for about 300; I do not know how many attend. There is one I omitted to mention, for 100 children, at Radcliffe, in the parish of Stepney. I have also omitted to mention the Bedford girls school, which is united with us, in which there are 70 girls; it is conducted entirely by ladies. There is also the Gower's Walk free school for 260 children, 130 boys and 130 girls: and in Whitechapel there is a parochial school for 100 boys and 100 girls. The former was originally established upon Dr. Bell's plan, prior to the institution of the National Society; the latter is an old parochial school, which has adopted that plan.

* If the funds of those different schools which you have described, were larger, could they educate a greater number of children?—The present annual subscriptions would of themselves educate a greater number of children; there would be some additional expense in enlarging the buildings, of course.

What prevents them from educating more?—Want of space.

Is there any indisposition on the part of the parents to send their children?—I believe not: as far as my experience goes, there is a great desire to send them, even among the lowest orders. With the permission of the committee, I would mention an anecdote: An old Irish barrow-woman,

with a pipe in her mouth, came into the girls' school one day, and said to the mistress, "Good madam, God Almighty has got a place for you in heaven, for your kindness to my child."

This was a child that had been educated in that school?—Yes, and I believe was in the school at that time.

Do you perceive any difficulty on the part of the parents in sending their children to school, in consequence of the naked state of some of them?—No, we require nothing else but clean face and hands.

Is there any difficulty on the part of the parents sending them, for want of clothes?—I believe there is; they feel some reluctance to send them, which the gentlemen of the school endeavour to overrule.

If the funds of the society were increased, could they establish schools, or extend others already established?—I will undertake to say, give us funds, and in the course of three years, there shall not be a child in the metropolis to whom the benefits of education shall not be offered.

Are you not apprehensive that if any public grant of money were given, it would slacken the disposition of individuals to subscribe?—I am apprehensive it might, if given as an annual grant.

Suppose the grant of money were confined merely to the specific purpose of building houses?—In that case the subscription might be kept up for other purposes, as for the annual expenses, &c.

How many can one master superintend, according to your system?—I conceive I do not exaggerate when I say one thousand.

What would be the expense?—The room being given, the expenses are, salary to the master, and the expense of books, which, I hope I shall be able to prove to the satisfaction of the committee, is a mere trifle; say 80*l.* a year.

What would be the expense of such a room, to build it?—That must depend much upon the materials. The quantity of space we consider necessary for a child is six square feet; some people say seven, but we think six sufficient, allowing for absentees; so that a room 30 feet by 20 will hold 100 children.

Is there a disposition in different parts of the country to form auxiliary societies?—Very much so indeed.

Are all the schools you have now mentioned, free schools?—Yes, entirely.

Lunæ, 27^a die Maii, 1816.

HENRY BROUGHAM,* Esq. in the Chair.

The REV. TINDAL THOMPSON WALMSLEY, again called in, and Examined.

CAN you now inform the committee respecting the disposition of grants by the National Society?—This paper contains an abstract of them.

[It was delivered in, and read as follows:]

	1813 :
26*	Grants . . . of these, 16 towards building new schools.
	1814 :
40	Grants . . . 28 towards building new schools.
	1815 :
55	Grants . . . 42 towards building new schools.
	1816 :
46	Grants . . . 33 towards building new schools.
<hr/>	
Total	167 Grants . . . of these, 121 towards building new schools.
GRANTS of MONEY made by the National Society.	
1813	£2,332
1814	3,832
1815	4,510
1816	3,120
<hr/>	
° £13,792	
<hr/>	

According to the plan of the National Society, what is the expense of books for fifty boys?—The total expense of books for fifty children is 1l. 3s. 11d. amounting to less than sixpence for each child; but as under good management each of the tracts comprehended in this calculation will serve six children in succession, the real expense for books, for suitable instruction in reading and in the first rudiments of religion, cannot be calculated at more than one penny for each child.

What is the expense of slates and pencils for the same number?—Not more than two-pence halfpenny a child.

Can you give the committee an estimate of the expense of teaching 500 children?—The room being given, I conceive four shillings and two-pence a head abundantly sufficient.

And proportionably larger for a smaller number, and smaller for a larger number?—Yes, of course.

What is the longest time that you take a boy for education?—We admit them at seven years old, and they may remain till they are fourteen; I should conceive two years abundantly sufficient for any boy.

Does not one great advantage of this system consist in its keeping every one of the boys actively at work during the whole time?—Yes, and I may add that they have not an idle moment.

Have you any experience in Sunday schools?—No, I have not; I think most of the London schools are day-schools.

Can you give the committee any estimate of the comparative time it would take for teaching a boy upon the National system at a Sunday school, instead of a day-school?—No, I cannot form any estimate.

Do you find the Dissenters are slack in sending their children to the National school?—I should say they are not slack; we have people of all denominations; we have even Jews in the school.

Do children of Dissenters go to their own places of worship?—I must beg leave to refer to the plan of union for an answer to that question, an extract from which I will read: “That the children of each school do constantly attend divine service in their parish church, or other place of public worship under the establishment, wherever the same is practicable, on the Lord’s day, unless such reason for their non-attendance be assigned, as shall be satisfactory to the persons having the direction of that school.

Do you find that in consequence of the children of Dissenters not being expressly permitted to attend at their places of worship, there is any reluctance on the part of their parents to send them?—I am not able to answer that question, for this reason, that the only question we ask when the child is admitted is, “are you seven years old.”

What is the time it takes to educate a master?—If a man is clever and active, about six weeks or two months.

How many masters have you sent out during the last twelvemonth?—Masters sent out to arrange schools, 49; boys ditto, 18; mistresses, 33; girls, 16; masters received from the country for instruction, 50; mistresses, 41.

What do you mean by boys and girls sent out?—As teachers; a school is opened at Guildford, for instance, and they think a boy or girl sufficient, and of course we send them one.

Have the masters and mistresses given satisfaction, that you have sent?—Very much so.

Are those masters and mistresses you send out stationary?—We have ten masters constantly upon our pay at a guinea a week, ready to be sent out either for a temporary or a permanent purpose, to arrange schools all over the kingdom; and we have even sent masters to Guernsey and Jersey.

Have you a number of candidates for admission?—A great many.

Do parents ever take their children away after being admitted, and before their education is completed?—Sometimes they do, but in general they are very permanent, till their parents have found a situation for them.

Have you sent masters or mistresses to any of the old foundations in the metropolis?—A great many to what they call the old ward schools; and we have had thanks from them for the services they have rendered.

Have you had occasion to observe how far there is a repugnance on the part of parents not belonging to the church, to send their children to the National schools?—I am not able to ascertain that there is any repugnance, for this reason, we only ask this question, namely, “are you seven years old?”

Can you tell how many children belonging to sectarian parents attend the school?—I believe very few.

How many attend the Baldwin’s-garden school altogether?—The total number of boys that attend constantly is very near 500; the girls about 200, or from that to 250.

In that number of 750, do you think there are 20 sectarian children?—I dare say there are more than that.

The Rev. ROBERT SIMPSON, called in, and Examined.

HAVE you the charge of the Whitechapel free school?—I have.

How many does it teach?—One thousand.

When was it founded?—In 1813, by the Whitechapel society.

How is it supported?—By contributions, and the benevolence of the inhabitants.

Is it entirely a new foundation?—Yes, entirely.

Is it in connexion with the National Society?—Yes.

And taught upon its plan?—Yes.

Did the National Society contribute towards its formation?—In some degree; I do not know to what extent.

How many years have you had the management of that school?—One year.

By whom was this institution originated?—By a society denominated the White chapel Society.

How long has the Whitechapel Society existed?—The

question was first agitated in 1812; it is not only a school, but divine service is performed there, I having a license for the purpose from the Bishop of London.

Was this establishment suggested or promoted by the National Society, or did it arise from local exertions?—From local exertions.

In what respect did the National Society promote the undertaking?—By the donation of a small sum of money. The expenditure will appear, by the report, to be very great indeed.

Did they communicate any suggestions respecting the conduct or management of the school?—I am not aware of any.

Then in what does its union with the National Society consist, beyond the donation of 300*l.* which it has received from that society?—From the circumstance of the instruction being conveyed in the same manner with the school in Baldwin's-gardens, and the same religious instruction being given.

Did you receive any master from the National Society?—There was one previous to my being there, and I had an extra assistant from the National Society; but the thing is so far established now as to go on without further assistance, except what I can give myself to the boys.

How did you learn the National System of teaching?—From Dr. Bell's instruction.

Where did you see it practised?—In Baldwin's-gardens school.

Did you ever attend regularly there, to receive instruction?—No, never.

Was there ever any master from the National Society, at the Whitechapel school?—Yes.

Your predecessor?—Yes.

Do you mean that the instruction which you received was from Dr. Bell's book?—Yes.

What was the annual income of the establishment for the year 1815, altogether?—1,254*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*

What was the expenditure for that year?—813*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.* besides a balance upon the former year, of 185*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*; 180*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.* for repayment of loans; and a further sum of 1,108*l.* 1*s.* 5½*d.* remains still due to different persons, for loans and expenses incurred since the establishment; and 75*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.* still due to the treasurer.

How many children can the establishment teach?—One thousand.

How many are actually there at present?—About seven hundred.

Have there ever been more?—Never more.

Have their numbers increased since you came?—Very much.

How many were there at first when you came?—Between three and four hundred.

Do they pay any thing at all?—Fourpence a month, which is given away again in rewards; but when the parents are so distressed as not to be able to pay, it is not exacted.

How does it happen that the number is not full?—We cannot persuade the lower orders of people at once to conform to our wishes, however good the object may be.

Are there a great number of the poor children in your neighbourhood uneducated?—That I cannot say, from the short time I have been there, but I think there are ample means to educate all there are; we have children from other parishes as well, some from Bethnal-green and Spitalfields.

What is the mistress's salary?—I believe 70*l.* a year.

What is your salary?—15*l.* 10*s.*

Are there many of the poor in your neighbourhood Catholics or Dissenters?—Yes, I should suppose there are a great many, but I cannot say exactly; we have some Jews also among the poorer orders.

Have you any children of Catholics, Dissenters, or Jews, at your school?—Yes, we have, but I cannot say to what extent; the question is not asked at the admission, respecting the sect to which they belong.

Do you mean to state that there is no exclusion of children who do not belong to the church?—So long as they conform to the system of education and religious instruction carried on there, there is not.

Can you give the committee any conjecture as to the number of children not belonging to the establishment, who are educated at your school?—No, I cannot.

Are there twenty, do you think?—I really cannot answer that.

Is the number very considerable, in proportion to the whole?—No, it is very inconsiderable, in proportion to the whole.

Are there many poor people uneducated in the neighbouring parishes to you?—There are a good many; but still there are the means, I think, of affording education to them, if they would embrace the opportunity.

What other schools are there besides yours, in that neighbourhood?—Gower's Walk school, and the Foundation school.

How many are educated in Gower's Walk school? Between two hundred and three hundred.

Is it connected with the National establishment?—Yes, just as much as we are, only it is under private sanction.

Who is it under?—The head of the school is Mr. Lovell.

Who supports it?—Mr. Davies entirely supports it; but now there is a printing press erected in the school, which supports itself, but I cannot tell to what extent it contributes towards the support of the school.

How many are educated at the Foundation school?—Two hundred.

Are the boys at your school lodged or clothed?—No, not at the Whitechapel society's school.

Are the girls?—No; merely taught.

How long does a boy of ordinary abilities take to learn to read?—That is a question not very easily answered, because it depends upon his abilities; but I think a child constant in his attendance, would attain the object in two years.

Mr. THOMAS COOPER, called in, and Examined.

ARE you master of the Castle-street Leicester-fields school?—I am.

Is it in connexion with the National Society?—It is.

You have heard the evidence of the last witness?—Yes.

Is your school any otherwise in union with the National Society than the Whitechapel school?—Nothing more; we had a donation from the National Society, as the Whitechapel school had.

How long has your school been established?—September 1814 was the first establishment of it.

By whom?—By the united parishes of Saint Martin in the Fields, and Saint Paul's Covent-garden, and supported by their mutual funds.

For how many children was the school established?—The rooms will contain about 500 children, not more.

How many attend?—Two hundred boys in round numbers, and 140 girls.

Do you know what the annual fund is?—I am speaking rather at random, but I think about 400*l.* independent of occasional parochial collections at the church; I should conceive the annual subscriptions amount to between 300*l.* and 400*l.* a year.

Is it much in debt?—I think not, as nearly out of debt as possible; we had a heavy debt, but I believe that is paid.

Is the school your own property?—It is held on lease.

What is the rent?—The rent I believe is somewhere about 100*l.* a year, the net rent.

Do you know what was paid for the lease?—I do not, nor do I know the length of it.

What is your salary?—For myself and my daughter,

who keeps the girl's school, our joint salary is 150*l.* a year.

Have you lodgings?—We have house rent, and coals and candles as well.

Are there many poor children uneducated in the parishes of Saint Martin's in the Fields, and Saint Paul's Covent-garden?—I am not prepared to answer that question; I should think they have, generally speaking, the opportunities of obtaining education.

What other schools are there in the parish?—The parochial school is the principal one, in Hemmings-row.

Do you know how many are educated there?—I think 80 boys and 40 girls.

Are they educated, lodged, and clothed?—The girls are entirely kept, and the boys clothed.

Is there any other school in the parish?—I am not aware of any other; the Covent Garden is a parochial school on Dr. Bell's plan, which is not the case with St. Martin's.

Mr. JAMES WILMOT, called in, and Examined.

YOU are the master of the Westminster National Free-School?—Yes, at the back of Great George-street, near the Sessions-house.

When was it established?—In 1812, on Dr. Bell's plan; originally it was in Orchard-street, Westminster. I do not know how long the school had been established upon the old plan; it was established some years previous to my arrival there about four years ago, and conducted on the old plan.

In short, it was reformed four years ago?—Yes.

How many children is it capable of educating?—One thousand.

How many actually attend?—Three hundred and ten boys and 272 girls.

How is it supported?—By voluntary subscriptions.

You have heard the examination of the last two witnesses; is your school connected with the National Society in the same way with their's?—It is.

What is the annual income of the school?—The income for the year ending April, 1816, was 1,131*l.* 8*s.* 10½*d.* including the balance of the last year's account; 183*l.* 19*s.* and 6*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* difference between Exchequer Bills sold and Exchequer Bills bought; 5*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* rent received for a quarter of the old school; the annual subscriptions were 648*l.* 19*s.*; collections by sermons, 238*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*; donations, 38*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*; deposits in the school boxes, 8*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.* The whole expenses for the same period were 1,113*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*; including 539*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.* to artificers, on account of the new building.

What is your salary?—One hundred pounds.

What is the schoolmistress's?—Seventy pounds.

The chaplain's salary?—Twenty-one pounds.

The needle-woman?—About sixteen pounds.

Are there many poor children uneducated in the neighbourhood?—I believe not; they may receive instruction, if their parents are desirous to put them to either of the schools established.

What other school is established in that part of the town, besides yours?—The school in the Horse-ferry road.

Is there any other in the lower parts of Westminster?—Not on this plan: there are foundation schools; the first is the Green-coat School.

Do you know how many are educated there?—Not above nineteen.

What other school is there?—There is the Grey-coat School, situated near to the other.

For how many?—Sixty boys and 30 girls. The children on this foundation are clothed and boarded.

What other schools?—The Blue-coat School, situated in St. John's parish.

For how many?—I believe 80 children; 50 boys and 30 girls.

Any others?—There is a school which they call Lady Dacre's Charity.

For how many?—I believe about 12 boys and 10 girls, something of that description.

What do you take to be the reason why, your school being capable of educating 1000, there are not above 600 attend it?—I cannot give any reason for it.

What has been the decrease since last year?—About 45 boys.

And the girls?—Fifty-one during the year.

Are there a great number of Catholics or Dissenters in your neighbourhood?—I believe there are a great number of Catholics and Dissenters, but we seldom hear of them as being so.

Mr. THOMAS BIGGS, called in, and Examined.

ARE you secretary to the West London Lancasterian Association?—Yes.

When was that established?—In July, 1813.

Does it consist with your knowledge that a survey was undertaken of the Covent Garden Division, by the members of that Association?—Yes, it was commenced and partly executed in the latter end of 1813; the district which forms the object of the Association is divided into twelve divisions, bounded by the River, St. James's Park,

extending as far as Vauxhall Bridge, and bounded by Grosvenor-place, Park-place, and the Edgeware road; the New road, north; and Gray's-Inn lane, that is the left boundary.

Have you got an abstract of the returns made by the committee who examined that part of this district?—I have.

[It was delivered in, and read as follows:]

COVENT-GARDEN DIVISION:

Section	Houses	Number of Educated Children.				Uneducated Children.		
		Visited.	Boys.	Girls	Total	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
No. 1	240	230	87	63	150	313	366	679
2	200	180	124	78	202	174	182	356
3	260	260	213	211	424	228	269	497
4	210	210	74	58	132	129	146	275
5	260	240	197	163	360	68	68	136
6	220	200	115	106	221	106	91	197
7	320	315	175	226	401	226	195	421
8	500	215	97	55	152	75	112	187
9	380	} Not examined.						
10	220							
11	190							
	3,000	1,850	1,082	960	2,042	1,319	1,429	2,748

Supposing that sections Nos. 9, 10, and 11, should average with the former numbers, it would give for the whole of Covent Garden Division, containing about 3,000 houses,
 Educated children 3,318 - and if multiplied by 12-39,816
 Uneducated do. - 4,465 - - - do - - - 53,580

The division which was partly examined, is bounded by the River, Northumberland-street, St. Martin's-lane, St. Andrew's Seven Dials, Broad-street, St. Giles's, Drury-lane, and Strand-lane.

Who examined the worst part of that division marked No. 1, in the above return?—Mr. Edward Wakefield and myself; I attended instead of Mr. Basil Montagu, who had undertaken it, and was prevented by professional engagements from performing that duty.

How did you proceed?—From house to house, and in many instances from room to room, for the purpose of ascertaining the number of those children that were educated, and those that were not; and we found a great number of the children in that place in extreme wretchedness, without instruction, or the means of procuring it; and the result of the investigation, which continued for

several days from nine o'clock in the morning until dark in the evening, was, that we obtained this information, that there was a great proportion of children uneducated, as in the above table. Wretchedness and filth were in the extreme; in many places, they had nothing to lie upon; and a great number of them subsisted by making clothes for the soldiers; many, who after they had been employed a whole day about a coat, got five-pence for it; their husbands were gone for soldiers, and that was the only employ they had to subsist themselves and family upon. They were all exceedingly anxious to have their children instructed, and seemed to be highly gratified in being informed that it was likely their wishes would be complied with.

Were they closely packed?—Exceedingly so; in every room of the house was a different tenant, from the ground-floor up to the garret.

To what streets or courts do you refer as the worst part of the district you surveyed?—Short's-gardens and the courts and alleys adjoining, and the courts uniting with Broad-street St. Giles's, particularly one filled with Irish, which were packed together in the most miserable state.

Were they in a state of great filth?—Extreme filth indeed; we were almost fearful of entering some of the apartments, but we received the greatest civility and kindness, and no doubt should have received subscriptions from them if they had been able, but they were totally unable to contribute any thing; the amount of subscriptions we received from the decent inhabitants was 6l. 6s.

Was it collected in small sums?—Generally 5s.; I do not know that there was any body gave less than 5s.; then they were considered members of the association.

Were the children whom you saw in this miserable place, so deficient in clothing that they could not have attended any school, if there had been one?—They could not without being thoroughly cleaned, many nearly without covering, and mostly without shoes.

What has the West London Lancastrian Association done towards erecting schools, since its establishment?—It has not been able, by the smallness of its funds, to erect any schools; the only one which the Association has at present, is situated in the Horse-ferry Road, Westminster, calculated to hold 500 boys, and 300 attend.

Is it conducted upon the plan of the Lancastrian, or British and Foreign School Society?—It is conducted upon the plan of the parent institution, so as to admit children of all religious denominations, without exception.

And to instruct upon Lancaster's plan?—Yes, we use the same lessons as the British and Foreign School Society.

What is the annual expense of the school at the Horse-ferry Road?—I should conceive near 250l. including the repairs, which it continually requires, and the master's salary, and incidental expenses.

What is the master's salary?—100l. except half a year he had a gratuity, making it up to 125l.

What is the reason that only 300 boys attend, when it is capable of accommodating 500?—I believe it has arisen from the parents sending their children to work; and in other instances, from their not having clothes to send them in; the children who attend, chiefly come from the lower parts of Westminster.

Can you inform the committee whether in that part of the town there are a great number of uneducated children?—I should conceive there are a great many; we have not had it investigated. It should be observed that the school is not a free school, but the children pay a penny a week, and in many instances the parents are too poor to pay any thing; the penny a week from these children, in five quarters, amounted to 35l. odd; but there are a great number who do not pay.

What has the income of the West London Lancastrian Association ever been in one year?—From May the 29th last year, up to the present period, it amounted to about 384l. in subscriptions and donations, and it expended nearly that sum.

What are its funds in hand, besides the annual subscriptions?—1000l. three per cent. To shew the readiness of some of the lower orders to assist the society, I would mention, that between May 12th, 1814, and August the 21st, 1815, the journeymen tailors have subscribed a sum amounting to 69l. 1s. 3d.

Have the West London Lancastrian Association any connexion with the British and Foreign School Society, further than similarity of plan?—None.

In what proportions have children belonging to different sects been admitted into the Horse-ferry Road school?—Of the established Church, 195; Kirk of Scotland, 5; Methodists, 21; Catholics, 7; Jews, 2.

Mr. MAURICE EDWARDS MARSAULT, called in, and Examined.

ARE you master of the Blue-coat School, Westminster?—Yes.

When was it founded?—In the year 1668.

By what funds is it supported?—Voluntary subscriptions, chiefly.

Has the school any property?—Very little.

What are the yearly expenses?—About 350*l*.

What is the yearly income?—Very uncertain; but we generally have from five to ten pounds over.

• How many boys are educated there?—Fifty-two boys.

How many girls?—Thirty-four.

Are they taught and clothed?—Annually clothed; shoes, stockings, and body linen, twice a year.

At what age are they admitted?—Seven.

How long do they remain?—Till fourteen, and then a premium given with them.

Who present the children to the school?—The governors.

Are the governors chosen from among the subscribers?—They are the subscribers.

Are any children but those of persons belonging to the established church admitted?—No.

Have the governors the power of altering the rules of the establishment?—Not without calling a special meeting.

Do you mean a special meeting of the subscribers?—Of the governors.

How many are there?—One hundred.

Does the building belong to the society?—No, it belongs to the Dean and Chapter.

Do you pay a rent?—A ground-rent of 3*s*. 6*d*. a year.

Is it a long lease?—One and twenty years, renewable.

Is there a fine paid upon the renewal?—Yes.

What is the master's salary?—Sixty pounds a year.

The mistress's?—Five-and-twenty.

Are there any other salaries?—No.

Can the governors alter the manner of conducting the charity, so as not to clothe, but only to educate?—No, I do not think they can.

What prevents them?—The charter upon which the school was first founded.

By whom was the charter granted?—Thomas Green, originally the owner of the Stag brewhouse.

Did he endow it with money?—A small sum; it was but a small school when he first established it; it was the first school of the sort established in England.

How much did he endow it with?—A very small sum, about 100*l*. or 150*l*.

Did he lay down rules?—No.

Have the rules ever been altered?—No, very trifling indeed; there has been some little alteration for the better.

Have the numbers of the children always been the same?—Yes, always the same.

Do they take seven years to learn to read, write, and account?—Some do not, and some do.

Are they taught arithmetic?—Yes, the four first rules; that is the limit, we go no farther.

If there were a greater number of children attending, could you instruct them?—Yes.

Do you teach upon the old or new method?—The old method.

What is the meaning of the charity called the Grand Khaibar?—I do not know; it consists of fifteen boys only.

Part of the fifty-two you have already mentioned?—No, in addition; I have an additional salary for that.

By whom was it founded?—It is not known; the particulars were burnt, years ago.

What is its income?—Voluntary subscriptions.

No others?—None at all.

What is your allowance for teaching those additional boys?—Twenty pounds a year; and I have to find them in all their books.

Are those children clothed, or only taught?—They are not clothed, they merely have their education.

How long have you been master?—Very near twelve months.

Were there ever fewer boys and girls?—Sometimes the numbers have not been complete, but very seldom.

Mr. JAMES LANCASTER, called in, and Examined.

WHAT are you?—Master of the Grey-coat school.

When was it founded?—In 1707, by Queen Anne.

Did she endow it?—I believe there was some benefit received from her, but I do not know any thing of the particulars.

Is there a building belonging to it?—Yes, a very old building.

What funds have you?—We have some freehold property in and about Westminster, and some in the city.

What is the annual income from that property?—Suppose I say 1800l. a year.

Is there any other fund besides that freehold property?—Some money in the Bank, and in South Sea Stock.

Do you include the income from your stock as well as from your freehold property?—Yes, I do; our freehold estate is about 1200l. a year.

How many do you educate?—Sixty boys and thirty girls.

Do you board them?—Yes, and clothe and lodge, and every thing; we take them off their parents' hands entirely, both boys and girls.

At what age do you admit them?—Between seven and ten they are taken in, and dismissed at fourteen.

Is there any income arising from voluntary contribu-

tions?—Very small; and so uncertain, that I cannot speak to it.

A hundred pounds a year, do you think?—No, by no means.

What are they taught?—We profess to give them mathematical education; and those who are inclined to go to sea, are taught the principles of navigation.

Do you teach reading, writing, and arithmetic?—Yes.

What are your salaries?—My salary as master is 50*l.*; my wife, as matron 20*l.*

Have you lodgings?—Yes.

Board?—Yes

Coals and candles?—Yes, every requisite.

Are there any other salaries?—A mathematical master.

How much has he?—45*l.*; but he does not live in the house, he only attends three afternoons in the week; I have an assistant at 30*l.* board and lodging; likewise the matron, an assistant 10 guineas, with board and lodging also; and five women servants.

What do their wages amount to, altogether?—About 220*l.* including board wages.

Are there any other salaries?—No.

Who present the children to that school?—The governors.

Who are they?—They principally live in Westminster.

What constitutes a governor?—After a nomination at a quarterly meeting.

By whom?—The chairman and treasurer, and confirmed at the quarterly meeting.

Do you mean quarterly meetings of the governors?—Yes.

How many governors are there?—Fifty-two.

Are there any rules laid down by the charter?—Yes.

Is the hospital obliged to abide by the number of boys and girls you have mentioned?—No.

Were there ever fewer?—Yes; and there have been more.

Could the governors alter the rules, if they pleased?—They can make bye-laws.

Could they give up the boarding a certain number of children if they chose, and expend the funds in educating a greater number?—No, I do not think they could do that.

What prevents them?—The charter, I presume.

Have you ever seen it?—Yes.

Does the charter specify the number who might be educated?—No, it does not specify the number of children; the number of governors is regulated by the charter.

Does it specify what use is to be made of the funds?—

I believe not any, otherwise than for the provision, maintenance, and education of children.

How do the governors present children?—In rotation.

Have they ever altered the plan of the establishment from the beginning?—I presume they have, for, some time after the establishment, the children were employed in spinning and combing wool; that has been done away a long time; now they attend to their education only.

What are the whole annual expenses, as nearly as you can estimate?—That is uncertain? I have known them exceed our income materially.

Do they materially fall short of the income?—Very little.

[Adjourned to to-morrow, twelve o'clock.]

Martis, 28^o die Maii, 1816.

HENRY BROUGHAM, Esq. in the Chair.

EDWARD WAKEFIELD, Esq. called in, and Examined.

DID you survey, with Mr. Biggs, part of the Covent-garden district mentioned in yesterday's evidence?—I went through two sections.

Did you make a report to the West London Lancastrian Society?—I made a report on the 16th of September, 1813.

Have you that report here?—I have.

[It was delivered in, and read, as follows.]

“ To the Chairman of the General Committee of the
West London Lancastrian Association.

“ Sir,

“ Mr. Basil Montague having declined to act as a district visitor, I determined no longer to delay an examination of the section which I undertook to visit, and accompanied with your messenger, Mr. Biggs, I began at the corner of New Belton-street, in Short's-gardens, nearly the whole of which we found occupied by poor room-keepers, generally with families, living in apparent wretchedness, unhealthy, filthy in their persons, their rooms, and their bedding; the staircases of the houses of course common to the numerous families which occupied them, and being common to all, appeared to be cleaned by none; the rooms in want of ventilation and white-washing, two objects which would conduce more to the comfort of the occupiers of these mansions of misery than any other which I can point out, objects attainable by those who let out the houses in rooms. It frequently happened, that more than one house, sometimes as many as four, had been hired of their owner, by an individual, who let the house out in rooms, in some cases with furniture, but in all with the rent paid weekly. It must not be calculated upon, that the room-keepers are permanent inhabitants of the places they occupy; their change of abode is frequent, and whenever your schools are built, it will be found that many of the children, now returned in your book as uneducated, will be gone; but it may be reasonably expected that their places will be occupied by others similarly circumstanced. We were received with

great civility; our enquiries readily answered. The men were generally absent, being labourers, and many of the women (particularly widows) occupied in making soldiers clothing, for which they stated being paid five-pence for a pair of trowsers, they finding the thread. The very great majority of the children were ignorant, and without the means of education; but it would be doing the parents great injustice, were I to omit stating, that they seemed anxiously desirous that their children should receive this blessing. I cannot pass by the filthy state of the streets, and the alleys and yards in Short's-gardens, which is of a fair width, and requires nothing but the attendance of the scavenger, to be as clean as any other part of the town; on the 10th of September at the ends towards Drury-lane there was a quantity of human ordure floating down the kennel, apparently the emptyings of many privies, and causing a stench sufficient to breed a pestilence. Crown-court, as marked in the map, is not in existence. From Short's-gardens we proceeded up Drury-lane, which is chiefly occupied by shopkeepers, many of whom already subscribe to parish or sectarian schools; but although we were unsuccessful in procuring money of any consequence, still we experienced so much civility, that it may be expected that persons known in the neighbourhood will eventually procure subscriptions in Drury-lane; for which purpose I should recommend application being made to Mr. Woodhead, distiller; Mr. Vaughan, butcher; and Mr. Ewing, cutler. Ragged-staff-court has only four houses in it, inhabited by much cleaner people than those in Short's-gardens. The houses in Broad-street St. Giles's are occupied by shopkeepers, having very few lodgers; and the same remark will attach to them as has already been made upon those in Drury-lane; persons known to the inhabitants will in time procure many subscribers. Mr. Turtle, butcher, in Middle-row, are persons who should be applied to. There are three courts in this part of St. Giles's, viz. Lascelles-court, Salutation-court, and another, occupied almost entirely by Irish; and it would be difficult to exceed the truth in describing the peculiar wretched situation of these people. The narrowness of these alleys will partly account for the increased state of dirt over those in Short's-gardens. These persons flocked around in great numbers, all anxious to avail themselves of the proffered boon. But it is necessary to remark, that some plan must be thought of by which these miserable children can be cleaned, previous to their admission into schools. Lascelles-place consists of fourteen private-houses, let out in floors to the clerks of brewhouses, timber-yards, &c. We generally saw the female of the families, who expressed so much good-will towards the Association, that I can hardly doubt but that if one efficient local collector, living in the place, could be found, that most of the fami-

lies would be subscribers; and if the schools formed should be pay, rather than charity schools, many of the children from this place will be sent to them. In King-street are many respectable shopkeepers, who will subscribe if such schools are formed as they may esteem adapted to the instruction of their own children. Upon this subject I had much conversation with numbers, and I perceived a very general anxiety to avail themselves of schools which should afford education at a cheap rate. And, aware of that most active of all principles in the conduct of man, viz. self-interest, I cannot but strongly recommend to the attention of the Association to adopt the principle of cheap pay schools, rather than charity schools; the former will at once instruct, and render the people respectable in their own eyes; the latter, although they may inform, will degrade the children to the class of charity children, and exclude thousands of subscribers willing to contribute towards the teaching of their own offspring at a cheap rate, but who possess an honest pride above gratuitously educating them, and yet unless they feel an interest will not subscribe. If this plan be adopted, no reliance must be placed upon the column of "educated children," for the majority of those so returned will become your scholars. The object of your Association I conceive to be no less than that of bringing home instruction to every man's door at the cheapest possible rate; and I am sanguine in the hope that the period is not very distant, when knowledge will flow like water from the public conduits. But you must bear in mind, that the houses in this great metropolis are not supplied with *water GRATIS*. The public companies have found out the easiest method of furnishing that necessary commodity; and if you succeed in creating schools for all, I am convinced your success will arise from the support which will be derived from those who can afford to pay for instructing their children, rather than from the gifts of the rich to bestow it upon those who are unable to pay any thing. Consider the difference in effect between a people independently educated through their own means, rather than a nation of charity children. I dwell upon this subject, because I conceive it to be a very important one for every district visitor to bear in mind. It is to this point that he must direct his conversation with all persons of property; it is by convincing them that your schools, when built, will be the means of enabling them to bring their children up at a cheaper rate and in a better manner, that you will receive their support; and if any doubt be entertained, reference may be made to the High School at Edinburgh, where the very highest classical education is received for 10s. 6d. per quarter. The side of Andrew-street which is included in my section is almost entirely occupied by a respectable class of room-keepers, most of whom were aware of the Association. Some will subscribe, and the majority send their children, some of

whom are now brought up in the Rev. Mr. Gurney's school, at the cost of 9d. per month, and books; others are in day-schools, paying from 4d. to 8d. per week.* From Andrew-street we proceeded into the remainder of Short's-gardens, New Bolton-street, Bowl-yard, and Vinegar-yard; the whole of which is inhabited by room-keepers, unable to subscribe, but abounding with uneducated children. The object of your Association is that of instructing the children of the western part of the metropolis; but the individual exertions of the gentlemen who have associated is no doubt for a much higher purpose, it is certainly with the hope that he is assisting in ameliorating the condition of his countrymen; and perhaps I should not say too much were I to add, his species. A district visitor will therefore attend to the state of the section which he agrees to superintend. An ancient philosopher has said, 'That a people are formed by laws, manners, and philosophy;' and narrow would be your pursuit, were you only endeavouring to form a herd of reading and writing machines: it is through that instrument, by the study of useful books, that you will form moral habits; and a moral and instructed population will take care to be governed by laws that will suit their habits; and such a people will no doubt learn to exercise the reasoning faculties by which they will be enabled to judge of cause and effect, which is the philosophy of which Aristotle has spoken. In the course of my visits, I witnessed great misery; wretchedness which appeared to me to be very permanent, since I met but with one person in a fever, but one child in the small pox, but one woman lying in, one child blind, and one deaf and dumb; but the unhealthy appearance of the majority of the children was too apparent. It would seem that they came into the world to exist during a few years in a state of torture, since by no other name can I call sickness, and dirt, and ignorance.

"It appears to me that every district visitor should consider the section, as placed permanently under his care; that his business must not end with the first examination; that he must pursue his enquiries until he find a *sufficient number of persons, to act as local collectors,* as will keep every family in his view; that thus, when the schools are formed, every child will be accounted for, and the parents readily made acquainted with their duties, the chief of which will no doubt be that of attending to the personal cleanliness of their children. If the schools be pay-schools, the very payment will form the great stimulus for attendance, since a parent considers the money thrown away if the child neglects to go to school.

"In this section I have found,

224 Houses.

472 Families.

150 Educated Children.

679 Uneducated Children.

4 Schools, containing 110 Children.

6 Manufactories.

9 Public-houses.

And I have collected contributions to the amount of 4l. 11s. 6d.

“ Although I have not been successful in collecting money, I have been eminently so in finding uneducated children, the exposure of which fact will probably ultimately be the means of procuring the necessary funds for the erection of schools. It also must be recollected, that the section which I have visited is inhabited by persons very unable to contribute in money; and that of those who are placed in happier circumstances, more will be obtained when they are convinced of the utility of your Association, and feel confident in the success of your exertions.

“ EDWARD WAKEFIELD.”

Have you another report?—I have.

[The same was delivered in, and read, as follows:]

“ To the Chairman of the General Committee of the West London Lancasterian Association.

“ Sir,

“ We received on the 5th November, the district book, No. 4, of the Covent-garden division, marked in your Map, C. No. 2; and soon after proceeded, agreeably to the written directions, to visit the householders in James-street Covent-garden. In this street we called upon the Rev. Mr. Embry, the rector of St. Paul's Covent-garden, who was unable to see us; but we had, at two visits, some conversation with a young lady, his niece, who was pleased to convey your address to this gentleman, and who was commissioned by him to state, that he declined contributing to your association. We then requested that he would either preach a sermon, or lend his church for that purpose, in order that contributions might be collected in your favour; but we were assured that a resolution of the vestry prevented any sermon from being preached in this parish church, except for the local purpose of the parish; and that there was no institution, however benevolent, to which the parish of St. Paul Covent-garden could render assistance. James-street is inhabited by respectable house-keepers, who seldom take in lodgers. The same remark may apply to the whole of Long Acre: on the south side of Long Acre are several courts and alleys, viz. Leg-alley, Banbury-court, Conduit-court, Eazenby-court, Angel-court, and Rose-street. The houses in these courts are occupied by room-keepers, generally in a state of poverty. In Leg-alley we visited a hair-dresser, Wm. Radcliff, who had lately had three children, one of whom was dead, and a second dying, to whose case no medical assistance was called in, the father alleging that it was useless, and complaining alone of their funeral expences, without appearing

to consider their death as any affliction. In this alley we found a Mrs. Russell, a Jewess, who appeared delighted to hear that her children would be admitted into your schools, as she had formed an idea that their religion would have precluded them; she promised to become a subscriber to the Association. The people residing in Angel-court and Rose-street are living in a peculiarly wretched manner; the former is chiefly inhabited by Irish, and in the latter the cellars are filled with human beings, existing in a state of peculiar wretchedness. We must particularly observe, that the outside of these houses do not by any means exhibit signs of that wretchedness which we found to pervade their interior; a passing stranger might imagine them to be respectably tenanted, but if the rooms are visited, it will be found that few parts of the metropolis can exhibit individuals in a much greater state of poverty. From Long Acre we proceeded down St. Martin's-lane, and through New-street to Rose-street, and afterwards visited the inhabitants of the north side of King-street, and Queen's-court in King-street, also Rose-street and Hart-street. In King-street, the upper stories are generally let to lodgers. Rose-street and Hart-street have many poor inhabitants, and some manufactories. On the whole we have been received with great civility, particularly by that class of persons likely to be benefited by your Association. In no instance did we hold out the expectation of forming charity schools; to all we stated, that the Association wished to afford instruction at the cheapest possible rate, and that the principle, if acted upon, would not reduce them to a state of obligation to any one. We cannot name the individual who dissented from this system; and we are convinced that the majority of those whose children are intended to receive a common education, will subscribe to your Association, and avail themselves of the opportunity of independently instructing their children. Mr. Jones, of Long Acre, secretary to the Sunday School Union, is willing to become a member of your committee; Mr. Minchet, of St. Martin's-lane, is ready to assist; and we believe that Mr. Applegarth, of James-street, may also be rendered useful.

" We visited 209 Houses,

316 Families, having

74 Boys educated.

128 Girls, ditto.

58 Boys uneducated.

146 Girls ditto.

406 Children; 13 of whom are Irish.

" We found two schools, that of Mr. Turner, in Hart-street, and Mr. Lee's in King-street, who, although favourable to your exertions, complained of the injury done to their profession.

"In this section are 5 gin-shops, 9 public-houses, 2 hotels, 71 brothels, 5 manufactories. And we collected 6l. 14s.

"We are your obedient humble Servants,

"EDWARD WAKEFIELD.

"THOMAS GRAHAM.

"ABRAHAM CLARKE."

Besides the observations contained in these two reports, did any other information present itself to you in that examination?—I found amongst the persons who I thought might become contributors to general schooling, which was the great object of the Association, an objection made to that object, in consequence of their subscribing to sectarian schools of their own religious belief.

Do you mean by "general schooling," schools for all sects?—The formation of the West London Lancasterian Association arose with the Earl of Darnley, who, I believe, is a trustee to the St. Patrick's Society; and the St. Patrick's Society does or did possess a large fund for the purpose of educating Irish children; in the conversation which I had with Lord Darnley, it struck us both that the fund might be most beneficially applied in the erection of a school in the neighbourhood of St. Giles's where so many Irish are known to live; in consequence of this conversation, Lord Darnley met some gentlemen at the house of the late Mr. Fox, of Argyle-street, when it was determined to enlarge the idea that had been thrown out, and, if general schools could be formed, to take in the children of the whole district; and it was considered as probable that the St. Patrick's Society would pay pro rata for the children of such Irish parents as might be educated in the schools; as the meetings of those gentlemen increased, the plan was greatly enlarged, and an association was formed to take in the whole western district of the metropolis, with the hope that the funds might be found to create schools for the general schooling of children of every sect and every description.

Would it be desirable to unite all sects of religion in supporting day schools, leaving such to adopt their own methods of conveying religious instruction in Sunday-schools?—My opinion decidedly is in favour of mixing the children of the different sects, and whose parents come from different countries, and the bringing them up in terms of intimacy and affection, under the roof of a common school-room.

What were the difficulties to which you alluded in a former answer?—Several housekeepers gave us as a reason for not subscribing to the West London Lancasterian Association, that they subscribed to a school of their own

religious sect, which they thought sufficient; many of the common people, who were Irish Catholics, said their children went to the school of the Irish religion; there is also a Methodist school there, and some of the housekeepers stated that they already subscribed to that.

Suppose there is a small district only in which it is proposed to plant a school, would it be inconvenient for that purpose that one school should be planted, from which all sectaries were excluded, in order to take the chance of another school being established to which all persons indiscriminately might be admitted?—If there were not sufficient funds, there must be a great number uneducated.

Suppose the case of a large district, in which there are large numbers both of the church and sectaries, would there be any material inconvenience in having a school upon the exclusive principle, and another for all?—As far as my opinion goes, I should much rather prefer a common school; I think children as they are trained up afterwards divide into parties as it were, and if the church is to have one school, and all out of the pale of the church another, I think it may eventually be attended with bad consequences.

But the question supposed, that the school for all should comprehend churchmen as well as sectaries; are you apprehensive that in such case the children of churchmen would not be sent to such school?—I am inclined to think that would be the case; and although there may be children who in a common view of the thing, might be called children going to the national church, are children of those parents who are of no religious sect whatever.

Then is it your opinion that the principal objection to the exclusive system, where there is no want of funds, and in a large district, is this, a tendency to perpetuate distinctions and religious parties?—That is my opinion.

From your intercourse with the inhabitants of this city, and your experience in the West London Lancastrian Association, do you apprehend that there is a facility of considerably increasing the amount of the present yearly sum raised for the purpose of educating the poor?—I think by no means; for the West London Lancastrian Society for education has fallen to the ground for want of funds, and every pains has been taken to raise them.

Do you apprehend that the disposition to subscribe has diminished of late?—I think it has; I have no doubt that money was more easily got when the thing was novel, than it is now.

Suppose government were to assist the different societies with money, do you apprehend that the effect would be to slacken the subscription?—I think that might depend upon

how the money was applied; it strikes me, that all that could be expected from government, would be the providing the school-rooms, and that afterwards the schools might be maintained by being cheap pay schools.

Do you mean, that as much as possible of the current expenses should be defrayed by small sums received from the scholars?—I believe that by the Lancasterian or Madras system, a school-room filled with scholars is fully capable of defraying the expenses of that school, at the payment of a penny per week per child; and I think that a people educated independently from their own funds, must be very superior to a nation of charity children.

Upon what number of charity children do you found your calculation of a penny per week being sufficient?—I am not speaking from any calculation of my own, but from the information which I have received in conversation with the different committees to which I belong, for schools under the Lancasterian system.

Then you do not apprehend that if government were merely to assist in the first outlay of the money, and then wholly to withdraw their supplies, that part of the yearly funds which arises from subscription would be materially affected?—I think that if government were to provide the school-rooms, it would be so great an encouragement to the system, that subscriptions would increase, and not diminish by any means; and the general zeal for superintendence would also greatly increase, which I consider very important.

Mr. JAMES LANCASTER, again called in, and Examined.

[The witness delivered in the following paper, which was read.]

“ The CHARTER of the Governors of the GREY COAT HOSPITAL, in Tothill Fields, of the Royal Foundation of Queen Anne.

“ ANNE, by the Grace of God, Queen of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all Christian people to whom these presents shall come, greeting: Whereas in or about the month of January in the year of our Lord 1698, a Charity School was erected in the parish of St. Margaret, Westminster, (by the name of the Grey Coat School) for the education of poor children in the principles of the Christian religion, teaching to read, and instructing them in the Church Catechism and discipline of the Church of England, as by law established, and for teaching to write and cast accounts, and (when fit) binding them apprentices to honest trades and employments; which said school was supported by the voluntary subscription and

benevolence of charitable persons: And whereas the persons who have acted as trustees of the said school, having found encouragement in the said undertaking, and designing to enlarge the said charity, did, in the year 1701, take into their care several other poor boys and girls of the said parish, and provide them, together with the other poor children of the said school, with cloathing, meat, drink, washing, lodging, and other necessaries, in a large house, known at present by the name of the Grey Coat Hospital, in or near Tothill Fields, appointed to them of the vestry of the said parish, rent-free, for that purpose; in which said hospital all the said children are not only taught and instructed as above-mentioned, but such of them as are capable are also kept to work, as spinning, knitting, sewing, and other employments, to inure them to honest labour and industry; towards the maintenance of which last-mentioned children the parish gives the usual allowance of six shillings per calendar month for each child, and thirty shillings a-piece towards binding them apprentices; and the whole charge of the said undertaking, being upwards of eight hundred pounds per annum, is made up by the voluntary subscriptions and benevolence of charitable persons: And whereas We are credibly informed that several persons are willing to bestow gifts and legacies, and to settle messuages, lands, tenements, rents, and hereditaments, for making a more solid foundation for the support and maintenance of the said hospital; but in regard the trustees, who have the care and management thereof, are not incorporated, they are not persons capable in law to receive such settlements, nor are well empowered to sue for, receive or recover any gifts or legacies which may be hereafter from time to time bequeathed by charitable persons to the said hospital; whereby the said hospital is in danger of losing such gifts, legacies, and charitable benevolences: And whereas We have been well assured that if We should be graciously pleased to incorporate the trustees of the said hospital now and for the time being, it would greatly encourage and promote the said undertaking;

1. Know ye therefore, That We of Our special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have ordained, willed, constituted, and appointed, and by these presents, for Us, Our heirs and successors, Do will, ordain, constitute, declare, and grant, That the Right Reverend Father in God Johu, Lord Bishop of Ely, the Reverend Nicholas Outley, Robert South, and George Smalldridge, doctors in divinity, Our trusty and well-beloved James Vernon, esquire, of Our Privy Council, William Lowndes, Thomas Frederick, Hugh Squier, Charles Twitty, Thomas Cross, James Vernon, junior, Thomas Addison, Thomas Raulton, Tanner Arnold, John Chamberlayne, William Clayton, Lionell Herne, Lancelot Burton, Samuel Edwards, Thomas Baker, Samuel

Edwin, esquires, Charles Rampaine, William Green, John Dive, Peter Walter, Henry Ballow, John Thurston, Henry Lloyd, Thomas Green, gentlemen, John Clayton, Robert Cross, John England, Leonard Martin, Samuel Saul, and John Bedwell, brewers, Captain Thomas Morgan, Mr. Jonathan Freeman, Mr. Emery Arguis, Mr. Robert Cousins, Mr. Arthur Swift, Mr. Edward Boulte, Mr. James Eales, Mr. Thomas Yeomans, Mr. John Holmes, Mr. Thomas Wisdom, Mr. Simon Boulte, Mr. Mark Hall, Mr. John Wilkins, Mr. Richard Files, Mr. Francis Mackreth, Mr. Henry Priest, and Mr. Samuel Michell, the present subscribers and benefactors to the said hospital, and their successors, to be elected in manner as hereafter is directed, be, and shall for ever hereafter be, by virtue of these presents, one body politic and corporate, in deed and in name, by the name of The Governors of the Grey Coat Hospital, in Tothill Fields, of the royal foundation of Queen Anne; and them and their successors by the said name, We do by these presents, for Us, Our heirs and successors, constitute and declare to be one body politic and corporate, in deed and in law, and by the same name they and their successors shall and may have perpetual succession.

2. And that they and their successors, by that name, shall and may for ever hereafter be persons able and capable in law to purchase, have, take, receive, and enjoy, to them and their successors, manors, messuages, lands, tenements, rents, annuities, and hereditaments, of whatsoever nature or kind, in fee and perpetuity, not exceeding the yearly value of two thousand pounds beyond reprises; and also estates for lives and for years, and all manner of goods, chattels, and things, whatsoever, of what nature or value soever; for the better support and maintenance of such poor children of the said parish of St. Margaret, Westminster, taught and instructed in manner and form as aforementioned; and to give, grant, let, and demise, the manors, messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, whereof or wherein they shall have any estate or inheritance, or for life, lives or years, as aforesaid, or any of them, by lease or leases, for term of years, in possession at the time of granting thereof, and not in reversion, not exceeding the term of one-and-forty years from the time of granting thereof, on which, in case no fine be taken, shall be reserved the full value, and in case a fine be taken, shall be reserved at least a moiety of the full value that the same shall be reasonably and *bond fide* worth at the time of such demise.

3. And that by the name aforesaid, they shall and may be able to sue and to be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, defend and be defended, in all courts and places whatsoever, of Us. Our heirs and suc-

cessors, in all actions, plaints, matters and demands whatsoever; and to act and do in all matters and things relating to the said corporation, in as ample manner and form as any other Our liege subjects, being persons able and capable in law, or any other body politic or corporate in this Our realm of England, lawfully may or can act or do.

4. And that the said society for ever hereafter shall and may have a common seal for the causes and business of them and their successors; and that it shall and may be lawful for them and their successors to change, break, alter and make new the said seal from time to time, as they shall think best.

5. And for the better execution of the purposes aforesaid, We do give and grant that they and the said society, and their successors for ever, shall and may, upon the sixth day of January in every year, unless the same happen to be on a Sunday, and then on the Monday following, meet at the said hospital, where they or the major part of them then present shall choose a president, one or more treasurers, two or more auditors, one secretary, and such other officers and servants as shall be thought convenient to serve in the said offices respectively for one year then next ensuing, and till others shall be chosen in their places respectively, and to allow them such salaries or other allowances as the said society or major part of them present at such annual meeting shall think reasonable.

6. And if it shall happen that any of the said persons so chosen shall die at any time between the yearly days of election aforesaid, that then it shall and may be lawful to and for the treasurer and secretary for the time being, or any three or more of the members of the said corporation, to issue summonses to the several members of the said society to meet at the said hospital, who, or the major part of them present, have hereby power to choose others, in the room or place of such person or persons so dead, to serve in such office respectively until the day of the next annual meeting hereby appointed for making new election of officers as aforesaid; at which annual meeting the officer or officers so put in to serve per interim, as aforesaid, may be continued or not continued, according to the direction of those who are to make the annual election as aforesaid.

7. And that the members of the said corporation and their successors shall and may, on the first Tuesday after Lady-day, Midsummer, Michaelmas, and Christmas yearly, for ever, elect such persons to be members of the said corporation as they or the major part of them then present shall think beneficial to the charitable design of the said corporation; which members so elected shall be members of

the said corporation by virtue of these presents as fully as if their names respectively were inserted to be members thereof in and by this Our charter.

8. And Our further will and pleasure is, That at the said meetings on the said first Tuesday after Lady-day, Midsummer, Michaelmas, and Christmas, yearly, and at no other meetings of the said society, the said society or the major part of the members thereof then present shall and may execute leases for years as aforesaid, and shall or may ordain and make laws, orders and constitutions for the well government of the said society, which laws and constitutions, not being repugnant to the laws and statutes of this realm, shall and may be effectually observed and kept; and the members to be present at such quarterly meetings, or the major part of them then present, are hereby empowered from time to time to remove and displace any of the officers before mentioned, or any other officers and servants belonging to the said hospital, at their will and pleasure, and to put others into their places from time to time, according to the best of their judgment and discretion.

9. Provided always, that any five or more of the members of the said society for the time being, upon information that any officer or servant of the said hospital has misbehaved himself, shall have power forthwith to give notice for a general meeting of all the members, at which such misbehaviour shall be examined, and the major part of the members then present having thereby power, if they see cause, to dismiss such officer or officers, servant or servants, from his or their office or offices, place or places in the said hospital, and to place others in his or their places, although it is not a quarterly meeting of the said members.

10. Provided always, that no act done in any of the said quarterly meetings shall be effectual and valid, unless seven or more members of the said corporation be present, and the major part of those present be consenting thereunto.

11. And We do likewise grant unto the said society and their successors, that they and their successors and the major part of them, as shall be present at any quarterly meeting of the said society, shall have power from time to time to depute such person or persons as they shall think fit to take subscriptions and to gather and collect such monies within the said parish as shall by any person or persons be contributed for the purposes aforesaid.

12. And Our will and pleasure is, and We do hereby further grant unto the said society and their successors, That they and their successors shall and may on Tuesday in

every week for ever hereafter, or oftener if occasion requires, meet at the said hospital, and they or the major part of them then present shall and may then or there transact any business of the said society, relating to the receipts, payments and accounts of their monies, and the expediture thereof, for the charitable purposes aforesaid; and make such orders as shall be reasonable, and not repugnant to the bye-laws or orders to be made at any such yearly or quarterly meetings.

13. And Our further will and pleasure is, That the said society shall cause fair and just accounts in writing to be kept, of all receipts, payments, and doings by them, their officers and agents respectively, in relation to the premises; which shall be liable to the view and inspection of any subscriber or benefactor upon occasion: which said accounts shall on the sixth day of January in every year, or within fourteen days after, be examined, audited and adjusted, and subscribed by the members present at such meeting, or the major part of them.

14. And lastly, Our pleasure is, That these Our letters patent, or the inrollment of them, shall be good, firm, valid and effectual in law according to Our royal intentions herebefore declared, without any fine to be paid in Our hanaper. In witness whereof We have caused these Our letters to be made patents. Witness Ourselves at Westminster the nineteenth day of April in the fifth year of Our reign.

(By Writ of Privy Seal.) *Cocks.*

It appears by the charter that has just been read, that a charity school, called the Grey Coat School, was erected in 1698, for the education of poor children in the discipline of the church of England; and that Queen Anne granted a charter for the same the 19th of April, 1706?—It was opened the 27th of May, 1706.

The charter incorporates certain persons by the name of the Governors of the Grey Coat Hospital, enables them to purchase lands and tenements not exceeding 2,000l. yearly value, and to choose their successors, and make bye-laws for their government, seven being a quorum?—It does.

Is there any restriction, either as to the number of children, or the manner in which they shall be educated?—No, there is not; at present there are 90 children; in 1812 there were 120.

What is the income of the establishment?—One thousand three hundred pounds a year ground-rents; dividends upon stock, 467l. 16s.; grants from the Exchequer, 20l.: annual subscriptions 147l.; making in all 1,934l. 16s. per annum.

What was the total receipt for 1814?—Two thousand two hundred and sixty-nine pounds; besides 980l. by the sale of Bank stock, and a legacy of 270l.

What do the yearly expenses usually amount to?—They amount to between 1,900l. and 2,000l.; of which, 219l. go for salaries and wages.

Have any great alterations been made in the regulations of the establishment?—In June, 1813, a great alteration was made, beginning with the following resolution: "That whereas the several standing orders, resolutions, and bye-laws, for the government of the said hospital, heretofore agreed upon, and now entered upon the books thereof, are in a great measure become obsolete and inexpedient, the same be rescinded and annulled, except as to such parts thereof, as shall be expressly confirmed by the regulations and bye-laws which shall now or hereafter be enacted and agreed upon; and for the better regulation and government of the said hospital, the following bye-laws and standing orders were resolved and agreed upon by the said governors at their quarterly meeting aforesaid."

Mr. ROBERT BLEMELL POLLARD, called in, and Examined.

ARE you master of the Green Coat School, Westminster?—I am the master of St. Margaret's Hospital, called the Green Coat School, of the royal foundation of Charles the First.

What is the income of the establishment?—I am not competent to state exactly; as our property lies, some in the funds and some in estates, it is very fluctuating; but I should think about 700l. a year.

What are, as nearly as you can tell us, your yearly expenses?—The expenses are to the full amount of the income; our buildings are very extensive, and much money is expended perpetually in repairs.

Are the buildings your own property?—Yes.

Does any part of the income arise from subscriptions?—None; entirely from estates, and money in the funds; we have no subscriptions and no charity sermons.

How many boys?—Twenty-four; originally 20; there are 20 governors, and each governor has a boy upon the foundation, of his presenting; but the funds were more prosperous at the commencement of the French Revolution than they are now; the governors from year to year increased the number from 20 to 24, and we have found the bad effects of it since.

In what manner?—In the increase of all the necessaries

of life; they are fed, lodged and clothed, and taught commercial education,

Are there any girls?—None.

Are boys apprenticed out?—There is a fund arising from the will of Sir John Cutler, granting to each boy 5l. as an apprentice fee.

Are there no other allowances, upon leaving the school?—None.

What is the master's salary?—30l. with 20l. for board.

Coals and candles found?—Yes.

Has the master any other perquisites?—The indulgence of taking some boarders, and some day scholars, and a house.

What other salaries are there on the establishment?—I am allowed for two servants.

Is there any other master employed beside yourself?—None.

Any other teacher?—At my own expense; therefore the hospital has nothing to do with it.

How many does the school consist of altogether, at present?—24 upon the foundation, and the others are fluctuating; but they may at present be 40; I cannot state exactly, I think that is about the number.

Is there a matron in your school, and what salary has she?—There is: the salary is 20l.; board, &c. 18l.

Is there nothing in the fundamental laws of the hospital which obliges them to board and lodge, as well as to educate the children?—It is expressed according to the charter.

Does the charter oblige the managers to support the children in that way?—Yes, to board, clothe, lodge, and educate them.

Does it oblige the managers to support a certain number of children in that way?—No, the number is indefinite.

Is there any thing to prevent the managers from boarding and lodging a smaller number than they now do, and to apply the surplus to a more general plan of education?—They are confined to board, to lodge, and educate as many boys within the hospital as the funds will admit them.

That is by the charter?—Yes.

Who are the governors?—There are twenty in all.

How are they chosen?—By ballot.

Who ballots for them?—The governors, at a board called for the purpose.

They chuse, then, their own successors?—Yes, according to the terms of the charter.

Do they present the boys in rotation?—Yes, they do.

Are the boys obliged to be taken from a particular class?—The class of people that they are taken from is

poor and decayed housekeepers, and others having a legal settlement in the parishes.

Are they bound by the charter to chuse from parochial residents?—Yes, they are.

Copy CHARTER of Saint Margaret's Hospital, commonly called The GREEN' COAT SCHOOL.

“ CHARLES by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King, Defend'r of the Faith, &c To all to whom these present letters must come, greeting. Whereas divers of our loving subjects, dwelling within our city of Westminster, have resolved to settle a certain house in which poor boys and girls of tender years may not only carefully be maintained with meat, drink, and apparel, but also instructed in manual arts in a certain part of a farm of the Dean and Chapter of the Church of St. Peter's, Westminster, and have humbly supplicated Us, so much as in Us is, to found and erect that house into an hospital, and that We would vouchsafe to appoint perpetual governors of the same to be a body corporate and politic, to whom the government of that hospital, and of the lands, tenements, goods, and chattels of the same may be committed: Know ye, That We, being willing to further their pious intentions, of Our special grace and certain knowledge and their motion, Do for Us, Our heirs and successors, will and ordain that that house hereafter be an hospital, and that the same hereafter be called by the name of The Hospital of St. Margaret's, in the city of Westminster, in the county of Middlesex, of the foundation of king Charles; and We do erect and found the same house for an hospital, by the name aforesaid, for ever to endure by these presents. We will also, and by these presents do ordain, for Us, Our heirs and successors, That for ever hereafter there be twenty honest and discreet men within the city and parish aforesaid, dwelling, who shall stand governors of the hospital aforesaid for perpetual time to come and under-written, that is to say, sir Robert Pye, knt.; sir Edward Wardowre, knt.; John Packer, Thomas Packer, William Man, Henry Lide, Peter Heywood, Henry Wetlefield, Thomas Morris, William Ireland, esq. John Elstone, gent. Bartholomew Parker, William Bell, John Bridgham, Richard Procter, Thomas Gabriel, James Parcel, James Chapman, Richard Bridges, and Robert Towley, dwelling within the city and parish aforesaid, We create and ordain into one body corporate and politic, in deed and in name, by the name of The Governors of the hospital of St. Margaret's, in the city of Westminster, in the county of Middlesex, of the foundation of King Charles. And We will, by the name aforesaid, they be called by these presents; and that they and others dwelling within the city and parish aforesaid, for the time being, in form following, to be governors of the hospital

aforesaid, to be chosen and admitted, and their successors by the same name, may hereafter have perpetual succession; and that they and their successors be, and shall be for perpetual time to come, persons able and capable in the law to have, perceive, possess, and retain the lands, tenements, and hereditaments in fee, and perpetuity for term of life and years, and the goods and chattels, and rights and debts what kind soever; and also to give, assign, demise, and dispose of their lands and tenements and hereditaments, goods, chattels, debts, rights and credits; and also by the name aforesaid, that they may implead and be impleaded, defend and be defended, in whatsoever courts and places, before whatsoever judges and justices, or other Our officers and ministers, or of Our heirs and successors, in all manner of actions, pleas, complaints and damages, in manner and form as any of Our liege people able and capable in the law, or any other body corporate or politic whatsoever, may or can; and that they may have a common seal to serve for their causes and business, and of their successors, whatsoever is to be done, and that it may be lawful for them and their successors that seal to break and change, and to make a new from time to time, as to them shall seem expedient. Moreover We will, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs and successors, Do grant to the aforesaid governors, that it shall be lawful for them and their successors, or the greater part of them, for the good government, supportation and bettering of the hospital aforesaid, to make, ordain and establish statutes, laws and ordinances whatsoever concerning the aforesaid hospital, boys, girls, and others living within the same hospital for the time being, and there to be put into due execution, so as notwithstanding that the same statutes, laws and ordinances and decrees be not contrary to the statutes and laws of this Our realm of England; and that the governors aforesaid, and their successors hereafter for ever, may have the government and oversight as well of boys and girls as of others living in the said hospital, and the disposing of the lands, tenements and hereditaments belonging to the said hospital, or being now or hereafter parcel of the possession thereof. We also will, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs and successors, Do grant to the said governors and to their successors, that it may be lawful for them or the greatest part of them in the hospital aforesaid from time to time themselves to meet together; and after the death of any of the governors aforesaid, or when any of them shall go to dwell in any other place, or from his place shall be lawfully removed, one other honest discreet man dwelling within the parish and city of Westminster aforesaid; in the place of him so departing or going away or removing, to nominate him thus for one of the governors of the aforesaid hospital, to supply the number aforesaid, which person so nominated and chosen shall be one of the governors of the aforesaid hospital, and him one

of the governors of the hospital aforesaid for Us, Our heirs and successors, We do make, create and ordain by these presents so often as the cause shall require. And further know ye, That We of Our special grace and out of Our certain knowledge and meer motion, Do grant to the aforesaid governors, and their successors, that it may be lawful for them and their successors from time to time to purchase and hold in fee, or for term of life or years, land and tenements which are not holden of Us, Our heirs or successors, or of any other by knight service, or any of Us by service of soccage in capite, to the yearly value of five hundred pounds. We do likewise give, license and grant by these presents, That it shall be lawful for the same governors and their successors to aliene and grant for term of life, all the said lands and tenements of the yearly rent aforesaid (the Statute de Terris, &c. notwithstanding.) We will also, and by these presents do grant to the aforesaid governors, That they may and shall have these Our letters patents under Our great seal of England, in due manner made and sealed without fine or fee great or small, to Us in Our hanaper or elsewhere to Our use therefore by any ways to be yielded paid or made, so that there be express mention of the true yearly value or certainty of the premises, or of any of them, or of other gifts or grants, by Us or by any of Our progenitors or predecessors to the aforesaid governors or any of them, before these times made, and in these presents not granted, or any statute, act, ordinance, provision, proclamations or restraint to the contrary thereof theretofore had, made, set forth, ordained or provided, or any other thing, cause or matter whatsoever, in anywise notwithstanding. In witness whereof We have caused these Our letters to be made patents. Witness Ourself at Westminster the fifteenth day of November in the year of Our reign the ninth.

(By Writ of Privy Seal.)

Mr. JAMES WIGGINS, called in, and Examined.

ARE you master of the foundation school in White-chapel-road?—Yes, I am, and have been so for thirty-one years.

This is not Simpkin's school, to which you allude?—No, the old school.

When was it founded?—In the year 1680.

By charter?—By the Rev. Ralph Davenant.

Did he endow it?—Yes.

By will?—Yes.

For what did he found it?—For 60 boys and 40 girls;

but it has been increased since that time from 100 to 200 children.

How many boys and girls are there now?—One hundred of each.

Does that number attend at the school now?—Yes, punctually; they never fail to attend.

How is it supported?—By funded property, and by subscriptions.

It appears that there is, by this paper you have handed me, four hundred and ten pounds odd paid for rent?—Yes.

There is one hundred and twenty-two pounds odd, dividends; and above three hundred and thirty pounds subscriptions, and collections from charity sermons?—Yes.

Are the children taught only, or boarded and lodged?—Only taught.

Are they clothed?—Yes, they are.

What is the master's salary?—One hundred pounds a year.

Is there a matron; and what is her salary?—Thirty-eight pounds.

What is the expense for books?—Fifty pounds.

For clothes?—Three hundred and ten pounds, making a yearly expense of about six hundred and ninety pounds in the whole.

Is there any thing to compel the plan of clothing the children?—No, I do not know that there is.

Who are the managers of the charity?—The rector, the treasurer, and others, making fifteen in all; and these are collected out of the elders of the parishes, who, as they die, choose the successors in perpetuity.

How long has the number of 200 been educated there?—When we began the Madras system about seven years ago, it was then increased from 100 to 200 children.

Do you mean that your funds were then increased?—They added subscriptions to it; previously, only the collections from charity sermons were taken.

Could the school now educate a greater number upon the new system than it does?—No.

Why?—It could not without re-building, which it was the intention to do, in proportion as the funds increased.

Were the 100 children, taken seven years ago, clothed as well as educated?—Yes, all clothed as well as educated.

Are there many poor children uneducated in your neighbourhood?—There were, some time ago; but, since we have had the large school, there are not so many.

Of what school do you speak?—I speak of Mr. Simpkins's, which join us.

Mr. JAMES GEORGE WILSON, *called in, and Examined.*

ARE you master of the parish school in Hemmings-row?—Yes, I am.

In what parish is it?—In the parish of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.

How long has it been established?—Ever since the year 1699.

By charter?—No.

How then?—It was established by the minister, then vicar, at the instigation of the principal inhabitants.

By what funds is it supported?—By annual subscriptions, benefactions, collections from charity sermons, and we have some funded property.

What is the total yearly income?—The last year it was little more than twelve hundred pounds.

How much of that was casual subscription?—Nearly five hundred pounds were annual subscriptions.

Was the remaining seven hundred pounds income from the funds?—No; the funded property produces between seventy and eighty pounds a year.

Then how is the rest of the money raised?—From collections of charity sermons, and occasional donations.

How many children do you educate?—80 boys and 40 girls.

Do you clothe them as well as educate them?—Yes, both; the girls are entirely maintained in the house, boarded, lodged, and educated; the boys are clothed and educated only.

What are they taught?—Reading, writing, and arithmetic; the girls are taught plain-work, so as to fit them out for service.

What is the general yearly expense?—The expenses nearly amount to our receipts; there was a balance in our hands, by the last year's account, of only twelve pounds.

What is the master's salary?—One hundred guineas, finding himself board and lodging. I should wish to mention, with regard to the salary, ten pounds was allowed for teaching them to sing psalms.

Are there any other salaries?—The matron has thirty guineas; and there is one servant, to whom wages are paid.

Who are the governors?—They are chosen from the annual subscribers and benefactors to the charity.

From whom are the children taken?—The boys are the children of distressed people in the parish; and the girls are the daughters of those who have kept houses in the parish, that is, those who either are or have been house-keepers, who have paid the parish rates.

Are they obliged to conform to the discipline of the church?—Yes; the school is connected with the established church. .

Who presents them?—They are recommended by subscribers, and admitted by the board of governors.

Are there any fundamental regulations for the establishment?—None particularly to which I can speak.

Is there any thing to oblige the governors to clothe and board the girls?—I should suppose not, from the way in which the school was first established.

Was there any charter?—There was no charter.

Were there any rules laid down at the time of the establishment?—None that I know of; I cannot speak to that.

Were there ever fewer girls boarded in the school than there are at present?—There might be at the foundation, I think there were then.

Did the governors change the rules from time to time, under which the school was carried on?—Yes; but they did it very seldom, and altered none of any importance.

How long have you been in that school?—I have been master for three years, and I was assistant a few years before that.

What is the salary of the assistant now?—There is no assistant now.

Do you practise the new, or the old mode of teaching?—Chiefly the old mode; we have a school on the new system already in the parish.

Until what age do you keep the children in your school?—We keep the boys from the age of eight till fourteen, and the girls from eight to fifteen; the boys are sent out to apprentice, and the girls to household service.

JOSEPH FLETCHER, Esq. called in, and Examined.

HOW long have you lived at Shadwell?—Twenty years.

Are you well acquainted with that district?—Yes, I am.

Have you turned your attention to the education of the poor in your neighbourhood lately?—I have.

Are you engaged in the foundation of a society for that purpose?—In the formation of a school for that purpose, called The British Union School.

To what parishes does the plan extend?—To the six parishes of Wapping, St. George's Middlesex, Limehouse, Shadwell, and the hamlet of Ratcliffe.

What is the population of these parishes?—I should suppose at least 100,000.

In that population, how many poor children do you estimate that there are without education?—There are only

18,000* educated; what proportion they bear to the population I do not know.

How are they educated?—In the parochial class, connected with the church of England, there are 360 : 180 boys and 180 girls, clothed, educated, and regularly attend divine service at the established church of their several parishes. There are two National Schools in the district, one of Ratcliff, originally the parochial charity school. It was enlarged about two years ago, by contributions from the friends, forming the National School; and the rest of the building was paid for by voluntary subscriptions: there are now in it 145 boys and 65 girls; 210 children in all, part of whom are clothed or educated. In Limehouse there is a National School, which has been recently built, and contains 264 boys and 135 girls; making in the two National Schools 609 children. Of the Dissenters, there are six charity schools in the district: there are 250 boys, and 187 girls, making 437 children, the greater part of whom are clothed; I may certainly say the whole of them. In the Roman Catholic school there are 72 boys, and 36 girls, making 108 children, of which 84 are clothed. There are general schools in the district, one of which is The East London Orphan Asylum, having 5 boys and 21 girls, boarded, clothed, and educated.

What is the expense of that establishment?—I cannot say, although I have been upon the committee. It has been very recently established; not more than two years ago. There are altogether 1,540 children educated in the six parishes. The children of the Middlesex and Tower Hamlet school occasionally attend the established church; but in the above calculation they are reckoned among the Dissenters, because they frequent the dissenting chapels more than the church. There are likewise a great number of Sunday schools, in which 2,549 children are educated, in the six parishes of the district.

Are there any Irish among the lower orders in the six parishes?—A very great number indeed. I am told, by the Roman catholic clergyman, that there are 1,400* persons belonging to his chapel, and the district of his chapel is nearly the same as that of our school.

Are these persons in low circumstances?—Almost the whole of them; they are the labourers of colliers and ballastmen, &c.

Are their children badly off, in respect of education?—Extremely so.

* Afterwards corrected to 1,800.

† Afterwards corrected to 14,000.

Can you form any estimate of how many of their children are educated?—Only the 108 which I have already expressed. It is possible there may be some educated in the National and Dissenting schools, but there cannot be many, if any.

Is there any indisposition on the part of these poor Irish to have their children educated, if they had the means?—Under certain restrictions they would have no objection; but they would not allow them to go into any of the schools at present established.

Why?—On account of the peculiar tenets of their religion.

Do any of them attend the Sunday schools?—I cannot answer that question; I do not attend, as teacher, any of the Sunday schools, and therefore I do not know.

Are your schools full?—The school I am speaking of is not open.

But of the schools which you have spoken of, are they full?—They are not filled; the number of children in them are given.

How many more are they capable of accommodating?—Nearly as many more, or more than as many more.

How do you account that they are not full?—For want of funds, I should presume.

There is no indisposition on the part of the poor to send their children?—On the contrary, the Shadwell-walk charity school has 50 in the school, and 71 in the nomination list, waiting for admission.

Then they have other advantages besides education, in that school?—In that school they are clothed.

How long has it been established?—Since the year 1712.

How is it supported?—By voluntary contributions. It has 1,000l. 5 per cent. stock, which has been gradually accumulating by the legacies of persons who have died.

Do the managers consider themselves bound to clothe, as well as educate the children?—Yes, certainly. At the annual dinner yesterday, a sum of money was subscribed for clothing 20 more, thereby increasing it to 70.

Is the old, or the new method of teaching, used in the different charity schools mentioned?—With the exception of the National Schools in Ratcliff and in Limehouse, the old method is used in them all.

Are the habits of the lower people very dissolute in these parishes?—Very much so indeed; the children are in a very depraved state.

Suppose free schools to be established, would there be any difficulty, from the want of proper clothing, in getting the

parents to send their children?—I think there would ; the clothing the children is a great relief to the poverty of the parents, and it is in itself an inducement for sending their children to the schools ; in too many instances this is the case, but I hope not in all.

Have you observed that the morals of the lower orders have grown better or worse within the last 20 years?—I think the population having increased, the morality of the lower classes is more observable ; there are a greater number of children round us than we used to have.

Are the poorest classes generally married?—I am sure I do not know ; there are a great number unmarried.

For instance, the Irish?—I believe they are generally married, so far as I know.

But whether married or not, have they generally families?—Yes, they have ; the Irish, particularly, in some of the rooms, have two or three families : it is impossible to describe their poverty, or the situation in which they live.

Are their wages considerable?—While at work they earn a great deal of money, but their employment is casual, depending upon the arrival of ships.

Do they save for a bad day?—They are not provident.

Have you any saving bank in your district?—There is one about to be established, from which we expect great benefit. I am of opinion that it will tend more to the improvement of the morals of the people, when coupled with education, than any other establishment whatever.

What are the highest wages that the poor Irish in your neighbourhood get?—The whole of the Irish work by the task ; they deliver by the ships, by the score, and can make any sum they please by exertion.

What will a good workman make in a day?—From ten to twenty shillings a day, when they work hard ; the average may be taken from eight to ten shillings ; this is only for one or two days in the week.

The rest of the week they are idle, then?—Unless the colliers are in ; it depends entirely upon the arrival of the coal ships.

When they are not occupied, what do they do then?—They walk about and drink. Sometimes they spend their time in a public-house, but not generally so.

Do they not find it necessary to drink a great quantity of beer, when they are working so hard?—A very great deal ; the quantity they drink is very great.

How much have you known a man to drink in a day, when at work?—I cannot tell ; the quantity of beer they drink is proverbial ; indeed they find it necessary to drink while they are at work.

Have you known a man drink four or five shillings' worth of beer a-day?—I cannot answer that question; they drink a very great deal; they drink almost all they earn.

Do their wives work?—Only in the family; a few of them, however, go out to washing, and some sell fruit; the lower classes of the Irish are very industrious.

Do they employ their children in begging?—I believe not, generally.

If schools were established for them, would there be any risk of their taking the children from the schools, in order to beg?—I should think not; in our district we have few if any begging; now and then one or two blind children are seen to beg, but none else.

How many children is your new establishment intended to accommodate?—About 1,000 children.

Is there any foundation school in the six parishes in question?—There is Raines's Hospital.

When was that established?—About 60 years.

Is it endowed?—Yes.

What is the income?—I cannot say; a part of it consists in landed leasehold property, the leases of which have run out; its funds are in a very low state; they clothe and educate, and give a marriage portion of 100l.

It has 30 girls?—There are 30 in it at present; it is a very excellent institution.

From what class are they taken?—From the parishioners.

Without distinction of sect?—It belongs to the church of England, and the discipline of the church is used there. I put it in the number of my former estimate.

Mr. HENRY ALTHENS, called in, and Examined.

ARE you secretary to the East London Auxiliary Sunday School Union Society?—I am one of the secretaries.

How long has it been established?—Rather more than two years.

How many Sunday schools has it established?—About ten since its first commencement.

How many children are taught at these ten schools?—One thousand two hundred and ninety-six children.

What district does the care of this society extend to?—The Union is confined to Sunday schools within the following limits: the River Thames, Gracechurch-street, Bishopsgate-street, through Shoreditch and Kingsland to Stamford-hill, allowing any Sunday school in the county of Essex to unite that may find it convenient; that is the line of demarcation, and we take all on the east of that line.

What assistance do you give to schools, as established in your parish?—We assist them by giving them money for the purpose of fitting up their schools, or providing books for the commencement of them, and any other assistance that they may apply to the committee for, which are found necessary.

How are your funds raised?—Partly by subscriptions of the existing Sunday schools, and partly by voluntary contributions.

What is your yearly expenditure?—During the two years it has been 50*l.* and 60*l.* each year.

What are the receipts?—They are about the same.

Is the teaching in these Sunday schools performed gratuitously?—Entirely so.

How many hours on the Sunday do the children generally attend?—I think, upon an average, we may say about five hours, besides attending a place of worship.

Are children admitted without any distinction of sect?—Entirely.

Are they obliged, in any of these schools, to attend the national church?—I do not know that there is any compulsion.

Is there any reluctance on the part of the Dissenters to send their children to them?—They are quite willing.

On the part of Catholics there is a reluctance?—Yes; we have had in our Sunday schools instances of the children of Roman Catholics attending them with the consent of their parents, but after having attended a few Sabbaths, the children tell us that they are not to come any more; we presume on account of the interference of the parent.

So that, in point of fact, few or no Catholics do attend these schools?—Certainly.

What are the children taught in these Sunday schools?—First, they are taught to read, and our main object is to teach them to read the Bible, and we exhort them to attend to all the moral duties of life. Our chief object is to convey religious instruction to the children, believing that to be the foundation of all moral good.

Do you teach any particular catechism in these schools?—No particular catechism, unless in schools connected with the established church. The chief catechism we use is that of Dr. Watts.

Are many of the ten schools mentioned, so connected with the established church, as that a Dissenter could not, consistently with his tenets, send his children to them?—I believe there is not one of them connected with the established church; when I spoke of the schools so connected, I meant the schools formerly in existence, independent of the ten new ones.

How many schools then are connected with your Union altogether?—Fifty-nine.

How many children are taught in those 59 schools?—There are 913 teachers, and 9,291 children.

In what way are these connected with your Union?—By sending subscriptions and representatives to the committee of our Union.

Do they receive any assistance from your society?—They are at liberty to apply for whatever assistance they may require, and if it is found necessary, and the committee think proper, such assistance will be granted.

At what age are the children generally admitted into these Sunday schools?—I believe not under six years of age.

How long do they continue in them?—Usually until they are fourteen years of age; but, upon an average, we think that our children do not continue with us above two years.

Are they children of the poorest classes?—We consider them the chief object of Sunday schools.

Do any children of a somewhat higher class attend?—There are several respectable persons' children who attend, on account of the religious instruction given.

Do you receive any pay?—None whatever. In some schools, the children and monitors subscribe; but it is an act entirely of their own, without being asked for it.

From what you know of Sunday schools, how long do you think a child takes learning to read?—I have known a boy of 14 years old come into a Sunday school, who was scarcely able to read a letter, and by the time he had been in a twelvemonth he was able to read correctly in the Testament, and had no other instruction whatever, excepting that he received at the Sunday school. But in a general way; we think, upon an average, the children learn to read in about three years.

Do you teach writing?—On the week evenings, which is always gratuitous.

Is that taught to all, or only meant as a reward?—It is a reward for proficiency and good behaviour.

Have you any adults in these schools?—We have adults to the number of 580, taught within the limits of our Union; and there are other adult schools connected with the City of London Adult Society, that has been recently formed; but we take no notice of them in our own.

How long does an adult take to learn to read at an adult school?—About five months; they are taught on Sunday, and one or two evenings in the week.

When you say that a boy at a Sunday school will learn to read in three years, do you mean a boy of ordinary abilities?—I do.

Having no other instruction in the week day?—None; but then we recommend the children to be taught by their parents, and brothers and sisters, at home, to acquire all the assistance they can by that means.

Have you had the means of comparing the progress made by children of the same description at a Sunday school and a day school?—We have had many instances occur, where children who go to day schools have been taken from them by their parents, and sent to our Sunday schools, on account of their education being so much neglected.

Have you had any means of comparing the progress made, where there was no neglect of the day schools?—I have not.

In these Sunday schools, is the new method of teaching adopted?—Only partially.

Is there any deficiency of teachers?—We consider that we have teachers sufficient to instruct the children we have at present in the schools; but that if we could have more commodious school-rooms, we might have a greater number of teachers, and more children might be instructed.

How many teachers, in general, are there, in proportion to 100 children?—About ten, in some of these schools; the ten teachers attend each Sunday. To 100 children, in other schools, there are a greater number of teachers, and they take it in rotation.

How many of these others attend each Sunday?—Where they have few children and a great number of teachers, the teachers attend once a fortnight or three weeks.

How many children can the teacher teach at once?—Ten or fifteen children; but the number of children vary according to the particular circumstances in the school.

Is there any instance of one teacher in a Sunday school taking charge of 90 or 100 children?—I believe not; they cannot take the whole charge.

Do you mean, to represent the teacher to teach, upon an average, 10 or 15 children at once?—Yes, about that.

Have you any further information to give to the committee?—I undertook to raise a Sunday school in that deplorable part of London called St. Catherine's, there being a great number of children in that neighbourhood who are totally uninstructed. About eighteen months ago a school was formed there, which now contains nearly 200 children; and many of these children who are now in the school, when first they came were unable to read, but now they are able to read well in the Bible. Finding that neighbourhood to be one in which there was a great deal of iniquity practised, I endeavoured, through the means of children whom we employed as monitors, to ascertain the ways in which

children were led into such iniquitous practices; and by this means I found out that there are four Jews, who live in St. Catherine's-lane generally, but they have other places of abode, and these four Jews have got a gang of 21 boys, whom they are bringing up as reputed thieves. One or two of these boys, and perhaps more of them, have been in our Sunday schools. One, upon being talked to upon the subject, seemed very much affected. He said he did not know what to do about it; he wished to leave that mode of life, and he sometimes never went near his companions for a week or two together; but they would decoy him out to go and play with them, and by that means they got him along with them again, and he could not resist the temptation held out to him. Through this boy I learnt that this gang of boys emulate each other to do the most daring actions. One of them said, "I got a gold watch out of a gentleman's pocket, in the Borough, and you never did such a thing as that yet." By this emulation they go on from one thing to another, until they perpetrate the most wicked deeds, and until they come to the gallows at last. And we have also likewise children attending our Sunday schools, who are either the servants or children of prostitutes living in the neighbourhood; and it appears that they have children bred to the same mode of life, who would be very glad to leave it, if any other means were presented by which they might earn their livelihood.

'JOHN MUNN, Esq. called in, and Examined.'

YOU are District Secretary to the East London Sunday School Union Society?—Yes, I am.

You have heard the evidence of the last witness; as far as your information goes, does it coincide with what he has stated?—I believe it to be quite correct.

Of what districts are you secretary?—Of Bow, Bromley, Old Ford, Stratford, West Ham, East Ham, and Plaistow.

What are the schools within that district?—

[The witness handed in the following paper:]

	Children actually Educated.	Of these are Clothed.
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BOW and OLD FORD:

C. Mr. Cobourn's charity, as many as can be obtained	80	
C. Draper's company's school	40	
D. Sunday school	235	
D. Female charity school	20	20

BROMLEY.

C. Parish school	114	114
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STRATFORD and WEST HAM.

C. Supported by a lady	60	60
C. Parish boys	120	40
C. Ditto girls	60	20
D. Female charity school	20	20
D. Sunday school	40	
D. Ditto	39	

EAST HAM.

C. Supported by three gentlemen	60	
D. Sunday school	46	

PLAISTOW.

D. Female charity school	10	10
D. Sunday school	42	
D. Ditto	30	

C. Denotes schools where the children are obliged to attend the established church.

D. Where no such regulation exists.

[Adjourned to to-morrow, at twelve o'clock.]

Mercurii 29^a die Maii 1816.

HENRY BROUGHAM, Esq. in the Chair.

Mr. FREDERICK TURNER, again called in and Examined.

HAVE you looked into the particulars referred to upon a former occasion?—I have.

Can you inform the committee whether there is any thing to prevent the trustees of your school from altering the mode of conducting the charity?—It appears to have been originally formed by some private gentlemen, who met together for the purpose of instituting it: and it was established for the purpose of educating 101 boys and 101 girls.

Did they tie down their successors to that particular form of proceeding?—I do not find that they are actually tied down; but the description which is used in all the deeds I will just read, it is called “A Society or Charitable Institution, or Foundation, supported by voluntary subscriptions, contributions, devises and bequests, and the donations of well disposed persons, for the purpose of clothing and educating 101 poor boys and 101 poor girls, and at a competent age placing out to trades and businesses, the said poor boys and poor girls, of or belonging to the several parishes of Saint Giles in the Fields and Saint George Bloomsbury, in the county of Middlesex.” There appears to have been a great many bequests and donations, and they are generally given to the trustees of the charity, without any specific direction as to the mode of application; but there are some exceptions to that rule. I have a publication here, which contains a list of the donations and legacies.

Which of the legacies are accompanied with conditions?—We have not copies of all the wills; but I find, among those I have, the will of Mrs. Sarah Power, which is dated the first of October, 1792, which was a bequest for the girls; there is another, the will of Mrs. Elizabeth Seawell, dated the fifth of January, 1813, which is also a bequest for the girls; there is also the reverend Benjamin Carter’s deed of settlement, dated the 12th of March, 1727, which is a bequest of 10l. a year for the use and benefit of the girls.

Are there any other legacies with that condition?—There is another from a lady unknown, in 1803, on condition of taking an additional girl into the house, a donation of 100l.;

and there was an additional girl taken into the house in consequence of that donation.

Can you take upon you to say there is not 50*l.* a year left under those conditions?—No, I cannot.

What sum should you think altogether is restricted by conditions of this sort?—Not much more or less; we circulate a copy of a will, in which a trust is described, “Upon trust that they or one of them do pay the same to the treasurer or treasurers for the time being of the charity school of Saint Giles in the Fields and Saint George Bloomsbury, in the county of Middlesex.”

Do you apprehend there is any thing in the constitution of the charity to prevent the trustees from diminishing the number of boys clothed, or the number of girls boarded?—Certainly not, unless the word “clothing,” used in the deed above referred to, might be considered as contradictory; this form of deed being used in all the transactions of the charity, may be supposed to have made it known to the public that it was an institution for clothing as well as educating.

Is there any mention of boarding in that form?—None whatever.

Have the trustees ever made any material alterations in those particulars?—They have made alterations from time to time in the number of girls; some time ago there were very few girls in the house, not above five; but they have since been considerably increased.

The Rev. ANTHONY HAMILTON, called in, and Examined.

YOU hold the office, in the church of St. Martin's, of clerk in orders, and master of the Librarian schools?—I do.

What endowment has it?—It is an endowment of Archbishop Tension, in the year 1697.

By will?—By a donation in his life-time.

Of freehold property?—Of certain sums of money, and leasehold property.

What is the amount of it?—The amount at present is 91*l.* odd shillings.

Including the leasehold property?—Yes.

To what purposes was it given?—Originally there was an appointment of librarian, master, usher, and writing master, all out of that sum.

Was there a library left?—There is a library also, consisting of between four and five thousand books.

Has there been any subsequent addition to the endowment?—There has been a considerable addition to the library, by Dr. Courayer, of a considerable number of books.

Was he librarian?—I do not think he was.

Any subsequent donation of money?—None at all.

In whose gift is the place?—It is in the election of the trustees, the vicar, the churchwardens of the parish, and certain other persons.

Who are those other persons?—I cannot say.

How are they chosen?—Elected by one another.

Upon what conditions was the gift made?—It was given for salaries to the master, usher, writing master, and librarian.

To what purpose was the library given?—It is expressed for general purposes, but particularly for the clergy of the parish (which then included St. George, St. James, and St. Anne Soho,) and the King's chaplain in ordinary during the time of waiting.

Have you a copy of the deed of gift?—Yes, I have.

How long have you held the office?—Since 1803.

Is it an open library?—It is accessible to the public, if I am there.

Is there a regular attendance given in the library?—I am in town for five months in the year, and during that time I live there.

Can a person have access to the library during those months at any time?—During certain hours.

What hours?—In the course of the day, from breakfast to dinner. It is very little frequented; one reason is, that there are no books of a later date than the date of the foundation; and Dr. Courayer's books are nearly of the same date. When I say there have been no donations since, there may have been a few donations of books, which are entered in a separate catalogue, but a very trifling number.

Is the office held by you for life?—I should consider not, because in former years there was an annual election, but it has always been the same person re-elected; they cannot be removed without the consent of the Archbishop, who is visitor.

Is he appointed visitor by the deed?—Yes.

Has any person a right to take away books for reading?—Many persons have borrowed books for reading, entering their names in a catalogue.

Is there a school?—There is.

How many boys are educated there?—Thirty boys; that was the original number fixed by the founder.

Are they lodged?—No.

Clothed?—No.

● *Mr. DIGNUM was here Examined with Mr. HAMILTON.*

WHAT are they taught?—Reading, writing, and arithmetic; and a few of the head boys, navigation and mensuration.

At what age are they admitted?—They should be admitted at nine years of age.

Are they admitted younger or older than nine?—Yes, they have been admitted at all ages.

How long do they remain?—Till they are fifteen.

How are they chosen?—I am totally ignorant of that; but the vicar of the parish and the senior churchwardens send a written order, and I receive them.

What is your salary?—Thirty pounds a year, for which I teach thirty children, with the privilege of taking pay scholars.

How many of those do you take?—They are limited; at present I have ten or twenty.

Is there any other master?—None; I employ gentlemen sometimes to teach them Latin and French.

Is your salary paid out of the 90l. a year given by the founder?—Part of it is.

(*To Mr. Hamilton.*) How is the master's salary paid?—Out of the funds.

How much of it out of the funds?—The salary of the master and the librarian is 30l. a year, for which the master was to teach ten boys; originally it was ten pounds more, making 40l.; out of that 40l. I allow 10l. to the under master; one 5l. is paid by the funds, and the other 5l. by the churchwardens, according to the order in the year 1774.

Then to what does the rest of the 90l. go?—For the support of the building and the payment of taxes, which eats up the whole of it, and more. The funds are considerably in arrear at present. The original constitution of the school required the master, who was to be a master of arts, and in priest's orders, to teach ten boys, and the usher twenty; and in the year 1724 there was a librarian and schoolmaster in the same person. There was an usher and a writing master in 1732. The appointment of the writing master was relinquished on account of the deficiency in the funds; in 1742 the appointment of usher was relinquished also, probably for the same reason, but no minute appears of that. In the year 1766, Mr. Wright was appointed librarian and schoolmaster, with a salary of 40l. In the year 1774, Mr. Applegarth was appointed to teach thirty boys, with a salary of 5l. from the trustees, 10l. from the schoolmaster, and 15l. from the churchwardens. There is no minute respecting

the reasons of this alteration, but it probably arose from there being no boys applying for instruction to the upper master, he was restricted to ten; it was a grammar school, and probably there were no boys coming under his direction, and therefore it was changed into a reading and writing school, which it was not originally.

JAMES PALMER, Esq. (*treasurer of Christ's Hospital, and who stated that he had been so for eighteen years;*) and

RICHARD CORP, Esq. (*chief clerk to the hospital, who stated that he had been so twenty-six years, and had been in the department forty-one years;*) were Examined, as follows:

WHEN was the hospital founded?—In 1553, another part in 1676.

It is incorporated by two royal charters, is it not?—Yes, one from king Edward the Sixth, and the other from king Charles the Second.

Are there any other charters relating to the corporation?—Not that I recollect.

Have you got copies of those charters here?—No.

They are printed, are they not?—I believe not.

What was the endowment of the charity?—We are really not in possession of any knowledge what was the precise endowment of the institution; we certainly know that part of the premises we occupy, commonly called Grey Friars, and the Cloisters, with a part of the building, were given us by king Edward, the founder; but further than that it does not occur to us we can give the committee any information upon that point. We are come here prepared to give the committee every possible information in our power, and not to withhold a single circumstance.

You understand then that king Edward the sixth endowed the charity with lands and tenements?—If you embrace the buildings and the site upon which they stand, it would certainly be lands and tenements; the house and the mathematical school were given by king Charles the second.

Did king Edward endow it in no other way than by giving the house and site?—I really cannot answer that question; we have little or no income from any part of them; I apprehend the estates were afterwards given to the city of London, and they afterwards dealt them out as they thought fit. We can trace all our other estates.

From whence does the other property of the corporation come?—From legacies and donations at different periods.

Can you give the committee the amount of those legacies altogether?—No; we can give the committee an account of our present expenses.

Have the legacies been numerous at different times?—Very.

Have any of them been to a great amount?—Yes.

Can you give us about the largest?—Lady Ramsay's is the largest; the rental of it is near 4,000*l.* per annum.

Where does the estate lie chiefly?—Greatly in Essex and Surrey, and one house in London.

About what time was the legacy left?—1592 or 1593; it was at that time charged with payments of 240*l.*; the rent then might have been 400*l.* or upwards.

Do you remember any other great legacy to the charity?—There is a very capital estate in Lincolnshire, a legacy from Mr. Henry Stone, left about the year 1696 or 1697.

About what income is derived from that now?—About 3,200*l.* a year from that; but perhaps it might be more proper to state, that in order to get that rent, the hospital has been at the expense, in improvements, of upwards of 40,000*l.* and ultimately it may be at a loss.

Have you had, generally speaking, a great defalcation of rent within the last two years?—Very little, hardly any; we expect defalcations, for we found great difficulty in getting payments; we have made only one deduction, and that but a small one.

Did king Charles the second give any thing to the charity?—An annuity of 370*l.* 10*s.* payable at the Exchequer.

Was that all that king Charles gave?—It is all that we have received under the charter, and we receive that for the special purpose of placing out boys in the service of his majesty, that is to say, for maintaining forty children, and placing ten of them in the sea service, and presenting them to the King; those are the boys that used yearly to be presented to the King; from that endowment the hospital is certainly minus.

Do you recollect any other considerable legacy?—Mr. Garway, of Sussex, left five farms at the rent of 1840*l.* a year.

Do you know the date of that donation?—I think just before the Mortmain act, early in 1700.

Any other considerable one?—There are several; Mr. Barnes gave us some very good estates in London; Mr. Barnham, Mr. Bowes, and Mr. Blundell, are also legatees.

Were those, or any one of them, legacies left upon conditions?—There are many that are left upon conditions, upon payment of the outgoings charged upon the property; and also the admission of children; and some also for scholarships at the university, and orders; Lady Ramsey particularly left some charged with payments of old soldiers and widows.

What was the whole gross income of the charity, for the

last year to which your accounts have been made up?—In the year 1814, the income was 44,625*l.* arising from all sources; that was the receipts, rather more than the stationary income perhaps.

Does that include any balance in the treasurer's hands?—Certainly not.

• Could you tell the committee what was the income for the year 1815?—43,386*l.*

What were the expenses for the year 1814?—41,061*l.*

For 1815?—40,420*l.*

What is the average balance in the treasurer's hands?—4570*l.* perhaps; at other periods not 1*l.* There have been periods in which I have been in advance, arising in this way; there may be a large balance in my hands to-day, and there may be bills come in to-morrow which may draw it out. We pay our salaries regularly every quarter, in the morning; the provision bills for the preceding quarter, within perhaps a month after that time, as soon as they can be delivered in and audited, and orders made upon the treasurer; and the same with our workmen's bills half-yearly; so that it is impossible to state the exact balance in my hands. We average the balance every year. We may take the average to be 2,000*l.* The cash book is made up every week, and signed by the treasurer, and presented to the committee every day they meet.

How many children have you upon the establishment?—Our accommodation is for 1156, including 80 girls; there are now in the house 1062, including about 65 or 70 girls.

Does this include the establishment at Hertford?—Yes.

Is that a preparatory school for Christ's Hospital?—It may be so esteemed, but not altogether so.

Do any boys continue there the whole time?—Only those whose friends particularly request it; perhaps never more than two at a time.

Do you reckon 1156 your full number?—Our beds and other accommodations are for 1156.

Are you limited by any clause in your charter to that number?—No; as many as we can accommodate, and our funds support.

What ages are the boys admitted at?—From seven to ten; that is the rule established in 1809; they may have been admitted older than ten, but none under seven; before 1809 there was no strict rule as to that point.

How long are they allowed to remain?—Till 15; with the exception of those who go to college, and those who go to the sea service.

Are they taught, lodged, and clothed?—Yes, without a shilling expense to their parents; and are provided at our expense also with all the books which they have occasion for; and with such as are bound out, an apprentice-fee of 5l. several of the benefactors having left money for that purpose.

[*In addition to the former Witnesses, Dr. TROLLOPE, the Head Master of the School, here joined in the Evidence.*]

WHAT are they taught?—They are taught to the utmost extent that they are taught in any other great school; reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic, part in mathematics, part in drawing, all classical learning, and Greek and Hebrew.

How many scholarships have you at the university?—Seven at Cambridge, and one at Oxford.

What are those scholarships in value?—Exhibitions we call them; I think they are 60l. a year at Cambridge, except at Pembroke, where they have an additional exhibition from the college, and therefore less from the hospital, but altogether about 90l. for four years, and for three years 10l. decrease; 50l. for the last three years; to which we should add the expenses of bachelors and masters of degrees, that are paid.

What are the Oxford exhibitions?—10l. more. We pay all fees of entrance, 20l. toward furnishing their rooms, 10l. for their books, and 10l. for their clothes, which is at least 50l. the outfit altogether.

When you represent the classical education as consisting of the particulars above mentioned, you do not mean that all or even the bulk of the boys are so taught?—Not to the extent.

What proportion now may be taught Greek and Latin?—According to a recent regulation of the governors, the whole of the boys proceed as far as they can in the classics, as their talent or age will allow them. They all leave us at fifteen, except those who go to the university, or go to sea.

About how many boys on an average, do you think, are taught in the classics?—In the upper grammar school I have 60, which is my department; the second master has, I think, about 150; and as far as we can say, I do not think that they can go further, and even with some of them it is quite the utmost.

How many boys should you say, in general, went through

a classical course completely?—About eight or ten there may be.

How many at the Hertford seminary are taught in the classics?—About 200, there being there 416 when full; and they are drafted in general at the age of twelve to London.

How many boys generally attain the last stage of what may be called the ordinary classical education?—About ten or twelve.

How are the scholars chosen for exhibition?—They are selected by the head master, according to their talent and behaviour.

In making this selection, does any person interfere with the choice of the head master?—No person.

Is any recommendation used with him in behalf of any scholar?—Frequently by their parents and friends.

Has he the absolute disposition of the exhibitions?—I have always found it so, since I have been head master.

Do you chuse directly, or only recommend to the governors?—I make the choice; I do not consult at the time; I chuse them when they are fit to go to the university.

In the event of more boys than one being equally qualified, how would such choice be made?—If they were equally qualified in point of talent, it would be given to the boy best behaving; or if the talent and behaviour were both equal, it would be regulated by age; it is a case which must happen constantly, from the number of applications, and but one exhibition.

How many exhibitions go every year?—One to Cambridge, and one every seventh year to Oxford, forming eight in seven years altogether; there have been no instances of vacancies by death in those exhibitions, except one, during the last forty years, which happened in the year 1789.

In the competitions for those exhibitions, is any interest used by any person or from any quarter whatever?—Applications are frequently made by the relations of the boys; but certainly the decision is always by me.

Do the governors interfere at all?—Never, since I have been there, the choice has been altogether with myself.

How many teachers are there altogether?—In London, four classical masters, two writing masters, and two ushers; mathematical, drawing, and singing master. At Hertford, a classical master, writing master, two ushers, and two mistresses to the girls school.

Is there a matron?—At each place, and a steward at each place; six beadles in London, and two at Hertford; thirteen nurses in London, and nine at Hertford; and a cook at each

place; besides physician and surgeon, not attached to the establishment; a resident apothecary in London; the apothecary at Hertford is not attached to it.

Is that the whole establishment?—And four clerks. • We also elect and pay three street keepers, who act under the orders of the Lord Mayor, as constables, to clear the streets, and keep the peace.

What is the salary of the head master?—As head master, 240l. 16s. 8d. A Sunday evening lecture was established by the governors in 1801, for the more effectual instruction of the children in the fundamental points of the Christian religion, which is delivered by the upper grammar master in the great hall, during eight months of the year, for which he has had 50 guineas; it is only eight months in the year, because the children for three months have public suppers, and prayers, when it would be inconvenient to attend the lecture; and the other month is the month of vacation; we have a month vacation at August, a fortnight at Christmas, and eleven days at Easter, with the Bank and city holidays.

Has the master any emoluments?—A house rent and tax free, no coal nor candle, nor any further perquisite; all the officers have houses, and the rent and taxes paid.

Have any of them any perquisites?—No, not besides their salary, except medical attendance and medicines; one or two of the beadles have a chaldron of coals. A library has been established within the hospital, for the use of the children; and no book is permitted to be used by the children till it has been inspected and approved by the head master.

What are the school hours?—From the first of March to the last day of October, they begin school at seven and continue till eight; then they have an hour's play; then from nine to twelve: then they have two hours for their dinner; and from two to five; seven hours in the whole. In the winter, from the first of November to the last day of February, they begin school at eight or nine: then they have their hour's play; and from ten to twelve; in the afternoon, from two to four, excepting Saturday afternoons; and Thursdays they leave off at three, throughout the year.

What is the salary of the second master?—205l.; the third master, 180l.

What is the salary of the master at Hertford?—I believe it is the same as the salary of the second master in London, 205l.

Has he a house too?—Yes. It happens that the fourth master in town has not a house, but he has an allowance till one can be provided for him.

What is the salary of the treasury?—Not any thing, a house to live in, and medicine if he wants it, and a surgeon

if he should break his leg; the house he lives in, the hospital pays the taxes for.

Has the treasurer the use of the balances that happen to be in his hand?—Certainly.

What is the amount annually of the whole salaries?—5,244*l.* in London, which includes the wages to all the servants; the Hertford establishment, 1746*l.* being in the whole for salaries 6,990*l.* There are pensions to retired officers and widows, in this year, to the amount of 1054*l.* for nurses, and widows of officers and gentlemen worn out in the service.

What is the average of the house expenses in the year?—The expense of clothing, salaries, and the expense of each child, 32*l.* 11*s.*; if you include building and every thing, it will amount to 37*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*

Is the expense of managing the estates included in the former estimate?—Yes, completely; the only officer we have in the country is a steward in Lincolnshire, at a salary of 70*l.*

What were the house expenses of last year?—The expenses for provisions, apparel, medicine, nurses wages, and stationery, for the year 1815, came to 21*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.* per child, being in the whole 22,547*l.*

Does this include Hertford?—It does, every thing; this account includes salaries to the apothecaries, wages and board wages of the servants; it includes every thing, except the salaries of the masters and officers, and the repairs of buildings.

Is the new mode of education adopted in any part of the seminary?—Doctor Bell's plan is pursued with the younger boys at Hertford.

How many boys are admitted yearly into the establishment?—One hundred and thirty have been presented this last year by governors' presentations, besides six girls, who are admitted by lots being drawn for them; independent of presentations from gifts.

What do you mean by presentations from gifts?—From presentations that we are obligated, out of estates given, sometimes to make a presentation of one among the founder's kin; of this description are four every year from Guy's Hospital; the others are chiefly from parishes and companies, entitled to present by virtue of old wills or other donations.

What is the annual number of those not admitted by governors presentations?—We generally discharge about 170 or 180 boys in a year, including all the ways of dismissal; we have known 200 dismissed, at the time when there were more children than at present.

• To supply those vacancies, the governors present?—Yes; 150 boys and six girls were presented for the last two years; that is regulated by the finances. After the report has been made, on the examination of the accounts, there may be one or two less boys, and then they are made up of girls; the remaining vacancies are filled up by gifts. There are 90 children constantly maintained from different gifts in the hospital; the vacancies in that number are supplied as they arise, without waiting for the annual period. We give notice when a boy is discharged or dies, and his place is filled up.

Are those thus entitled, restricted to the boys whom they are to present?—The wills are various; many leave it to the governors to present in the usual way; some particular benefactors state that they shall be of particular ages; but there are very few exceptions to the general regulations of the house; whatever limitations are put in the will of the benefactor, we see they are performed in the selection of that object. There are a certain number of children that are presented every year, sons of lieutenants in the navy, under the will of Mr. Travers; those are included in the 130 above specified; there are fifty of these lieutenants sons.

Who are the governors of the hospital?—The mayor and commonalty of the citizens of the city of London, as represented by the lord mayor, aldermen, and twelve of the common councilmen chosen by the rest of the common council out of their own body.

By what law or custom is the corporation of the city of London so represented for the purposes of this charity?—The act of parliament in the year 1782, the 22d of the king, settled the disputes between the city of London and the hospital; it is intituled, “An Act to render valid and effectual certain Articles of Agreement between the Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens of the City of London, governors of the possessions, revenues and goods of the Hospitals of Edward King of England the sixth, of Christ, Bridewell, and Saint Thomas the Apostle, and of the Hospitals of Henry the Eighth King of England, called the House of the Poor, in West Smithfield near London, and of the House and Hospital called Bethlem, and the Presidents, Treasurers, and acting Governors of the said several Hospitals.” Since the passing of this act, the share of the government of this hospital belonging to the corporation of the city of London, has become vested in the mayor, aldermen, and twelve common councilmen chosen by the whole common council.

Who are the governors, beside the corporation of the city of London?—Noblemen and gentlemen of all ranks, who become benefactors to a certain amount.

What entitles a benefactor to be a governor?—Four hundred pounds, after passing a ballot as to character. After a person has subscribed to that amount, he is balloted for by a committee of almoners specially appointed, and then recommended by that committee to the court of governors to become a governor from his benefaction.

After they are so recommended to the court of governors, they vote them a staff?—Yes. No benefaction governor has ever been rejected by the court of governors, or the committee of almoners, for the last forty-one years.

How many governors are there now upon the list by benefactions?—There have been made of benefaction governors, within the last ten years, one hundred and five, who have given 39,330l.

Are all those governors made by virtue of having given 400l. each?—No; twenty governors are to be named in two years, by the governors in rotation: if there are twenty governors made from benefactions, there are no nominations, except in the case of a new alderman being made in the two years.

Then are the committee to understand that the mayor, each alderman, and each of the twelve common council chosen by the rest of the body, have all the privileges of individual governors?—Yes, they have; each of them is a governor; the aldermen have exclusive rights, which will afterwards appear.

Have the common council such privileges?—No; the act settles that they are to act in common with all the other governors, have the same privileges and powers, and no more; and if they quit the common council they are no longer governors; the same is to be observed with regard to the aldermen: they can make permanent governors during the time they are governors.

Besides the corporation of the city, and the governors by benefactions, and the ten governors a year chosen in rotation by the other governors, are there any other governors?—Every alderman, at the first biennial nomination after he comes into his office of alderman, is allowed to name a governor, which governor is to be a benefactor of 200l., although the number should be full of twenty nominated by the other governors or benefactions: thus, suppose there are seventeen benefaction governors in two years, the governors in rotation, beginning where the last nomination left off, fill up those three, unless an alderman is come into office since the last nomination, in which case he makes one, and the governors name the other two; but if there are twenty benefaction governors, and a new alderman has come into office,

he names the twenty-first governor, and there is no rotation governor named at all. We understand it is a matter of right on the part of the alderman, if the benefaction governors fall short of twenty; and if they amount to twenty, they consider it as matter of permission; but it has never been disputed. We do not limit the number of benefaction governors at all; and every governor, nominated in what way soever, must become a benefactor to the amount of 200*l*.

Does every alderman, upon becoming a governor, become a benefactor also?—Not necessarily; some do.

How often do the governors hold a court?—There are five appointed courts; and as many other courts as the business requires.

Do all the governors attend there?—They are all summoned, and may attend.

Has each a vote?—Yes; fifteen is a quorum.

Who is at the head of the charity?—A president, elected by the body of the governors; and no instance has been known of its being otherwise than an alderman of London.

Is he elected for life?—Yes, as long as he continues an alderman; in ceasing to be an alderman he ceases to be a governor, and of course to be a president, unless he happens to be a governor by benefaction or otherwise before he was an alderman.

How do the governors present to the charity?—The lord mayor presents two; the president, as president, two, and one as alderman; the other twenty-four aldermen each one annually, provided any children are admitted. In the year 1767 or 1768 was the last time when there was no presentations for that year, except that they complimented the lord mayor with his extra presentation.

Suppose the lord mayor was president?—He would have two as lord mayor, and two as president.

How do the other governors present?—The treasurer, who is also a governor, is complimented with two presentations; and he takes his rank as a governor, and one in his turn as governor: the ordinary governors fill up the remaining number in rotation, beginning each year where the last presentation ceased.

Suppose a person has presented as a privileged governor, by which is meant president, mayor, alderman, and so forth; does he present in his rotation as an ordinary governor?—The treasurer is the only person to whom that applies.

From what class of children must the presentations be made?—This appears by the regulations established at

different periods, but last especially, revised and settled at the court held the 28th of April, 1809, a copy of which I will deliver in.

[It was delivered in, and read, as follows:]

“REGULATIONS for the admission of children into CHRIST'S HOSPITAL, London*:—Specially revised and settled at a Court, 28th April, 1809.

1. That every governor may present the child of a parent not free of the city of London, nor a clergyman of the church of England, either on his first, second, or third presentation, as he shall think proper, and so on, one every three presentations.

2. That no children be admitted but such as shall be between the age of seven and ten years; which is to be proved by such certificates, affidavits and vouchers, as are now or shall be hereafter required by the order of the general court.

3. That a child whose parent or parents has or have two other children under fourteen years of age to maintain, may be admitted by a presentation, although such child has one brother or sister, and no more, already on the charge of this hospital.

4. That no child shall be admitted, who is a foundling, or maintained at the parish charge.

5. That no children of livery servants, except freemen of the city of London, or *children who have any adequate means of being educated or* MAINTAINED, or who are lame, crooked or deformed, so as not to be able to take care of themselves, or have any infectious distemper, as leprosy, scaldhead, itch, scab, evil, or rupture, or distemper which shall be judged incurable, shall be taken into this hospital, on any account or by any presentation whatever; and if any such shall happen to be admitted, and afterwards found disqualified in some or one of these instances, they shall be immediately sent home to their parents, or to the parishes from whence they came.

* See Orders of Court, of the 28th of March, 1765, the 4th of July, 1765, and the 7th of March, 1777.

6. That none be admitted without a due certificate from the minister, churchwarden, and three of the principal inhabitants of the parish from whence such children come, certifying the age of the said children, and that they have no adequate means of being educated and maintained; the said minister, churchwardens and inhabitants engaging to discharge the hospital of them before or after the age of fifteen years, if the governors shall so require.—If the father is minister of the parish, the certificate to be signed by the officiating minister of a neighbouring parish.

7. To prevent children being admitted contrary to the above rules, they shall be presented to a general court, who will examine into the truth of the certificates, vouchers and testimonials required, touching their age, birth, orphanage or other qualifications, or refer the same to the committee of almoners, strictly to examine whether the allegations contained in each separate petition and presentation are true, and conformable to the right of the presentee and the above regulations; and all such as shall be found otherwise, shall be rejected."

Have those regulations been strictly adhered to ever since the 28th of April, 1809?—There has been only one exception, and that relates to the age which arose upon the doubtful construction of a will, under which the boy was presented, it being a parish presentation.

What was the name?—Carpenter.

In what year was it?—About the year 1814.

Previous to April, 1809, were any children admitted, whose parents were able to educate and maintain them?—They all produce a certificate of their inability so to do.

When was this the old rule of the establishment?—The old form of the presentation before 1809, was always upon the certificate of the inability of the parents to maintain and educate them.

By whom was that certificate signed?—The minister, churchwardens, and three housekeepers of the parish where the party resided.

Was any examination, before 1809, made into the truth of the certificates?—There has been no other examination than what is pursued now; previously, not quite so strict; in fact, the examination did not go so strictly into the capability of the parents to maintain them; great dependence is placed upon the honour of the governor, that he would conform himself to the rules respecting the qualifications.

Have the examinations since 1809 been rigorous into the

question of the capability of the parents?—They have been very particular; we have no means of ascertaining except by the credit of the statement; in fact, they generally inquire, when the presentation is filled up, what is your income; and the governor knowing what class of child he is to present, of course he is a good deal depended upon that he will select a proper object. There have been presentations which the committee have refused, in many instances; we look at an income not exceeding 300*l.* a year as the largest, and, unless there happens to be a very large family, no general rule is adopted, but every case is examined upon its own merits.

Are there many instances of children being admitted, whose parents are totally destitute?—Very many.

Is that the case with the majority of children admitted?—No, I should think not: It appears, “that on the 17th of February, 1809, when there were upon the charge of the hospital, children 1065, sixty-five of whom were girls;

“ That of the 1000 boys,

161 were admitted on gifts from companies,
parishes, &c.

498 sons of freemen.

239 sons of nonfreemen.

102 sons of clergymen, who had, exclusive of } 578
the boys in the hospital, other children

“ That the parents of 871 boys, had, exclusive } 3606.
of those in the hospital, other children

“ And that 27 boys had neither brother nor sister.

“ That out of the 973 boys, there were as under;

Orphans	-	-	-	57	} 360
Sons of widows	-	.	-	210	
Motherless boys	-	-	-	93	

“ Of the above number, 400 were at Hertford.”

Did it appear that in those cases the parents of the children above enumerated were in distressed circumstances?—It appeared so at the time of their admission, because they produced certificates that they could not otherwise procure education.

What sort of examination, beyond merely looking at the

certificate, was gone into?—We have no means of ascertaining the income of the party, but from their own declaration.

Who are present at the examination?—It is always reported to the committee, and the statement read.

Are the committee present when the parent is examined?—No, it is done at the public office; they are admitted at the committee, and their parents called in before the committee, and such questions put as the committee may think necessary, upon reading the prayer of the petition and the statement of their circumstances.

Are the committee to understand, that before a child is admitted upon a presentation, the parents are examined and questioned as to their circumstances, by a committee of governors?—They are ordered to attend and do attend in consequence, and answer any questions that the committee may think necessary; if there is nothing particular in the presentation, respecting their report, the question is not asked; but their statement of income is made in the presentation, with their number of children, and all the particulars, and the ages of the rest of their family.

Have you frequently seen an actual examination by questions, at the committee?—Very often; particularly so by the treasurer, and many other governors, sitting at the board.

Has this been more strict since 1809 than it was before?—Certainly, infinitely more. .

Do you know of any one instance since that, of a child being admitted, whose parents were able to maintain and educate it?—No, I think not, as far as the statement in the presentation went; it is taken on the credit of the party. There are many instances of children being removed by their parents of their own act, when they found themselves equal to support their family.

That was the understanding of the hospital committee, you mean, at the time of the admission; but has it often happened that, notwithstanding the certificates, children were admitted, whose parents could otherwise have maintained and educated them?—It has never come to our knowledge; we know no instances of our having been deceived; but we cannot take upon us to say that the parents may in all cases have been in the circumstances represented; but at the time we had no reason to believe they were otherwise than represented.

How often does the hospital committee meet?—Every second Wednesday in the month, for the admission of children, and oftener if required.

Mr. THOMAS HUGGINS, called in, and Examined.

ARE you steward of Christ's hospital?—I am.

You have heard the examination of the last witnesses?—
I have.

As far as your knowledge goes, do you agree with them?
—I do.

Have you any thing to add to the evidence they have
given?—Nothing.

[Adjourned to to-morrow, 12 o'clock.]

Jovis, 30^a die Maii, 1816.

HENRY BROUGHAM, Esq. in the Chair.

THE Chairman laid before the Committee a Statement transmitted by Mr. Althens in compliance with their request; which was read, as follows :

“ I have endeavoured to ascertain the number of untaught children within the general district of our East union; and I herewith transmit the following calculation :

“ In the district bounded by the River Thames, Gracechurch-street, Bishopsgate-street, through Kingsland-road to Stamford-hill, the population east of this boundary amounts to about . . . 250,000 persons.

One half of this number are above twenty years of age . . . 125,000

One quarter under six years, and from sixteen to twenty . . . 67,500

One quarter, from 6 to 16 years of age : { Number of those whose parents can pay for their education, about . . . 12,000

{ Number of those who are taught in charity, parochial, and national schools, about . . . 5,000

{ Number of those who are taught in Sunday schools, by gratuitous teachers, about . . . 10,000

{ Untaught . . . about 30,500

Total . . . 250,000

“ I submit the above, believing it will, upon investigation, be found nearly correct : if so, a similar calculation, to include the other three parts of London and its vicinity, will leave 122,000 children, between the ages of six and sixteen, destitute of instruction in the Metropolis.

“ As a Sunday school teacher, I have been in the habit of visiting the houses of the poor ; and in the neighbourhood of St. Catherine's, East Smithfield, and the Hermitage to the Wall of Wapping Dock, I have made frequent visits to upwards of 500 houses, which are numerous inhabited ; and the result of my enquiries in these parts fully convince me of the great want of education among the children of the poor, between the ages of six and sixteen years ; and great numbers of the parents are also unable to read.”

Dr. THOMAS WATERS, called in, and Examined.

YOU are maister of Emanuel Hospital?—I am.

How long have you been so?—Twelve years.

On what foundation is it?—Lady Dacre's.

Of what date?—The 20th of December 1594. The following is a copy of that branch of the will which relates to this foundation:—

“ And whereas my Lord, in his lifetime, and myself were purposed to erect an hospital in Westminster, or in some other place near adjoining thereunto, and to give one hundred and ten pounds in monies towards the building and edifying thereof, and forty pounds a year in lands, for ever, towards reliefe of aged people, and bringing up of children in vertue and good and lawdable arts in the said hospital, whereby they might the better live in time to come by their honest labour; and for y^e pfecting of our said purpose were minded to become humble suitors to the Queen's most excellent Ma^{ty}, for her princely incorporation of the same hospital for ever: To the end therefore that the same may be done accordingly with a further augmentation I will and devise that mine executors, if I shall not live to perform this myselfe in my lifetime, shall, of the issues sales and profits of my mannors lands and tenements to them hereafter in and by this my said last will devised lymitted and appointed for and towards y^e payment of my debts and legacies, and the performance of my last will and testament, cause to be erected and built a meet and convenient house, with roomes of habitation for twenty poor folkes, and twenty other poor children, imploying and bestowing thereupon three hundred pounds; and that also my said executors shall in like sort as my Lord and I had purposed (if we had lived) become humble suitors to y^e Queen's Majesty, and prosecute the same with their best good meanes and endeavour for incorporating of the same hospital; and after such incorporation procured, my will and mind is, that my said execut^r or y^e survivor of them, shall assure the mannor of Brainsburton in the county of Yorke, with y^e appurtenances, and all other my lands tenem^t and hereditaments in Brainsburton aforesaid or elsewhere in the county of Yorke that I have any way to me and mine heyres, not being parcell of y^e magnor of Woodhall Elwarbie and Thorclebye, and not lying or extending in Elwarbie Woodhall or Thorclebye, to the said Incorporation and their successors for ever, for which purpose I have hereafter devised lymitted and appointed the said mannors and lands by this my will to my said executors and their heirs; Nevertheless, my will and meaning is, if I demise not nor lease not the same hereafter in my lifetime, that then my said executors or y^e survivors or survivor of them, or y^e heirs of the survivor, before such assurance to be made to y^e said Incorporation as aforesaid,

shall lease demise and grant for the terme of one hundred yeares, or for some lesser terme at their discretion, the said mannor of Brainsburton and y^e said lands and tenements limitted and appointed to be insured to the said Incorporation, with their appurtenances, to such pson or psons as to them or to y^e survivor or survivors of them, or y^e heirs of y^e survivor, shall seem good; upon which lease to be made, there shall be reserved and yearly payable during the said terme for which y^e said lease shall be made, the yearly rent of one hundred pounds yearly to be paid at two feasts in y^e year by even and equal portions; and the same lease so to be made as aforesaid, I will and devise shall be good and effectual in law against me, my heirs executors and assigns, and their heirs and assigns; after which lease so to be made, I will the reversion of the said mannor of Brainsburton, and of y^e said lands tenements and hereditaments, with their appurtenances, together with y^e said rent of one hundred pounds yearly to be reserved upon y^e said lease, shall by my said executors, or the survivor or survivors of them, or the heirs of the survivor, be conveyed and assured to the said Incorporation, and their successors, for ever; and y^e same conveyance and assurance so to be made, shall stand and be good against me and mine heirs, and against my said executors, and their heirs and assigns as aforesaid, other than y^e lease or leases aforesaid: And whereas I have had speech and communication with Edw^d More, Esq. for the purchase of certaine ground of his, conteyning about four acres, situate lying and being in or near Tuthill Fields in y^e county of Middlesex, for erecting and placing the said Hospitall thereupon, or some part thereof, I will that the same shall be purchased of him by my executors, at such price as he hath offered y^e same unto Mr. Goddard, who hath dealt with him therein; and that afterwards my executors shall build thereupon one Hospital or messuage as aforesaid, with convenient roomes of habitation for the said Incorporation; and after the same so bought, and y^e housing so edified, then I will the same be assured to the said Incorporation and their successors for ever accordingly; and my desire is y^t y^e said Hospital shall be called Emanuel Hospital in Westminster, or such like good name as shall please my Lord Treasurer to name, or in his default as my said executors, or y^e most part of them, or the survivors of them, or y^e heirs of the survivor, shall name or appoint; and whatsoever my said executors shall do in the premises, or for y^e making or executing of the said lease and assurance of y^e said mannor, and other y^e premises to the said Hospital meant or intended to be limitted or assured, I the said Lady Dacre do will that the same shall stand and be of full force and effect in law against me and mine heirs, and against mine executors and assigns, and against their and every of their heirs and assigns, saving y^t the said lease for term of one hundred years to be made of the

premes in forme aforesaid, rendring y^e yearly rent of one hundred pounds aforesaid, shall be good and effectual for and during the said terme, to such person or persons, and their assignes, to whom the said lease or demise shall be made."

After this will was there a charter of incorporation?—There was; dated 17th December in the 43d of Elizabeth, according to the tenor of the foregoing will, and appointing the lord mayor and aldermen of London, after the decease of Lady Dacre's executors, the governors of the hospital.

How many poor children are now maintained in the said hospital?—Twenty-two; we have two more girls than are named in the will.

Are they boarded, lodged, and clothed?—Yes; and taught.

Are there twenty aged people maintained also?—There are.

Has the number always been full?—Ever since I have been there.

Do you know the yearly income of the hospital?—I believe at the last letting it was let for 2,900l. together with 90l. for garden-ground in Westminster, that is subject to a deduction of 940l. for the Rector of Brandsburton; his predecessor had 200l. only; within three or four years back, he, being a mathematical man, measured the land, and increased it to 940l.

Does the rector's income arise from land?—I know nothing of the Brandsburton business, merely that there is such a man, and that he receives so much.

In whose gift is the living?—St. John's Cambridge; the rector is a fellow of that college, of course.

In whose gift is the mastership of the hospital in Westminster?—In the lord mayor and court of aldermen.

Has the hospital any other establishments besides those you have mentioned?—None that I know of.

Any funded property?—That I do not know; but I imagine not much; there must arise an annual surplus from the income, but that we require, the premises being very large, for repairs; it is like an old castle; and it is necessary to make preparations for those repairs, which occur almost every seven years.

As nearly as you can estimate, what is the annual expense of the establishment?—1300l. or 1400l. I suppose.

What is your salary?—130l. including that of the mistress, who is my wife.

Have you a house?—Yes, and a garden.

Any other emoluments or perquisites?—Coal and candle,

and those kind of things, which are common to the situation.

Have you board beside?—No, no table.

Have you any allowance for servants?—Not a farthing.

Are there any other salaries belonging to the establishment?—I believe not.

Are there no porters or servants kept?—No; one of the old men is called warden, and gets 10*l.* a year upon the binding of apprentices, and taking care of the gates, but nothing from the charity.

Is it understood to be incumbent upon the hospital to clothe and feed the children, as well as to educate them?—I have always understood so; by the statutes and ordinances made by the governors, the diet of the children and all other particulars are regulated.

Are those ordinances strictly observed?—Very strictly, excepting that they have been modernized.

Was the number of children ever greater than 22?—It has been, but not here; they tried the scheme of sending eight children to Yorkshire, but the distance was so great, and the inconveniences so numerous, that they withdrew from it; but they have ten out-pensioners, which I believe are not at all named, who have 10*l.* a year till they are elected into the house, and out of those we take the others, if their character be good.

How are they chosen?—They are appointed by the lord mayor and court of aldermen; they are the same description of people, of course.

When were these out-pensioners first taken?—That I do not know; before my time; but I rather suppose when the last regulation took place.

Do you mean in 1802?—Yes.

Are the children chosen, as well as the pensioners, by the mayor and alderman?—They are appointed by them; there is a notice sent to the parishes, and it is published in the church, and all persons who are eligible make their applications; it is necessary for the parents of the children to have been housekeepers, never to have received alms either as paupers or beggars, and to be Protestants, and members of the church of England.

Is it necessary for them to produce a certificate of not being able to maintain or educate their children?—I believe not; I never heard of such a thing.

Then how do they state or prove that their children come within the description of poor children?—They state it in the body of the petition, and that is authenticated by the minister and churchwardens of the parish.

Are they obliged to state that their circumstances are such as to render them incapable of educating and supporting their children?—Yes, they must produce certificates to all those things from the clergymen and churchwardens of their parishes.

From your knowledge of the children now in the establishment, can you take upon you to say that the whole 22 are poor children belonging to parents who have no other means of supporting and educating them?—Every one of them, I believe, I can say very conscientiously.

• In what rank of life are their parents?—They are in general of the lowest order of people, journeymen brewers, and carpenters, and that description of people; there is not one who has been got in by favour or affection.

Mr. WILLIAM FREEMAN LLOYD, called in, and Examined.

WHAT is your business, and where do you reside?—I am a Blackwell-hall factor, carrying on business at Mason's-hall, Basinghall street.

Are you acquainted with the state of the children of the poor in the metropolis?—Yes; chiefly from my acquaintance with Sunday schools, and with those who conduct them, and from having visited the poor at their own habitations.

Are there in your opinion many who have no instruction?—Certainly a great many.

In what parts of the town chiefly?—In St. Giles's, Saffron-hill, Tothillfields, St. Catherine's, and Wapping, where there are many Irish children.

Do you think that Irish children are the most neglected?—Certainly.

From what cause?—From the priests discouraging their attendance at schools where the Bible is used; the Catholic children sometimes come into a school, but they seldom stay long.

Do you belong to a society called the Sunday-school Union?—Yes, I am one of the secretaries.

What is the nature of that society?—It is a voluntary association of gratuitous Sunday-school teachers, and others feeling an interest in the instruction of the young, for the purpose of extending Sunday-schools as much as possible.

By a voluntary association, do you mean an association of teachers of various sects of religion?—Yes, certainly.

What are its objects?—Its objects are to promote the extension of Sunday-schools, to lead to the formation of

new, and the revival of old schools, and to the establishment of similar institutions throughout the kingdom.

Does it extend to the kingdom at large, as well as to the metropolis?—Primarily to the metropolis, and more remotely to the kingdom at large.

Are you able to form an opinion of the number of children educated in Sunday-schools in the metropolis?—I have drawn out a statement as nearly as I can, which I will deliver in.

[It was read, as follows:]

SUNDAY SCHOOLS :				Scholars.
East London district	-	-	-	9,291
Do.	-	Adults	-	580
West Do.	-	Do.	-	8,708
Southwark	-	Do.	-	7,361
North and central Do.	-	-	-	9,520
				<hr/> 35,460 <hr/>

I think there are several Sunday-schools, either not known or not reported in the above; I think the number of Sunday-scholars in the metropolis is about 40,000.

How many teachers are employed in those schools?—About 4000.

Are all the teachers gratuitous?—All of them.

And the secretaries and other officers of the society?—Entirely gratuitous.

What particular advantages do you think arise from this association?—It tends to promote general zeal and union in advancing the cause of Sunday-schools.

Has it been the means of producing an increased desire in the poor, for the education of their children?—Certainly.

Do you imagine there is any difference in the progress which children make in Sunday-schools and day-schools?—They seem to pay more attention on Sundays, but it depends on the system upon which the schools are conducted; in some Sunday-schools, the teachers not only instruct on a Sunday, but in addition to this, the most advanced scholars are taught writing and arithmetic during the week; the scholars also attend regularly public worship, and are taught to reverence the Sabbath.

How many children does one teacher generally instruct;—From ten to fifteen is the general average; some teachers attend only part of the day.

What difference is there between a Sunday school and a

day school?—Sunday schools instruct those poor children whose time is fully employed in labour during the week days, and to them this is the only opportunity of gaining instruction; the children also learn their lessons during the week, to repeat to their teachers on Sunday; and the teachers visit their children at their own habitations, and procure the co-operation of their parents, and watch over their conduct as much as they can.

What in your opinion could be done to extend the benefit of education throughout the metropolis?—I conceive it would be desirable to investigate the situation of the poor.

What is the advantage of gratuitous teachers over paid teachers in Sunday schools?—It is the great excellence of the Sunday school system, that it employs gratuitous teachers, who are incalculably preferable to paid teachers, because they perform their duty better; many of them are persons in respectable situations of life, and the children perceive the disinterested attention of their teachers, and therefore feel a greater regard for them, and pay more attention to their instructions. If the 4000 teachers in the metropolis were paid at the rate of 2s. each Sunday, it would cost upwards of 20,000*l.* per annum.

Do you imagine that the generality of poor children in the various parishes of London are educated in the parochial schools?—No, comparatively very few.

Do you know of any plan which could be adopted to increase that number in the day schools?—I think it would be desirable for the inhabitants of the several parishes where they are formed, to investigate the state of the schools, and to superintend them as much as lies in their power.

What do you calculate the expense, per annum, of teaching a child in a Sunday school?—Exclusive of the expense of rent (of which it is impossible to form a general calculation) sixpence per head is as much as it costs.

Does that include books?—Books, fire, candles, and all other expenses, except rent.

Are there candles used in a Sunday school?—Yes.

Do they teach them in an evening?—Many of them, where the children attend public worship in the afternoon.

If children were not clothed in parochial schools, but that expense saved, might not a much greater number of children be educated than are now, in the respective parishes of London?—Certainly the expense of clothing one child would educate several; a great many more might have instruction; I suppose nearly the whole uneducated poor of the metropolis.

• Do you think it is better to give education to a great number, than instruction and clothing only a few?—Certainly, much better.

Are there not many poor children in want of clothes to appear decent in schools?—There are some few; but they are chiefly of the lowest description of poor; I think most of the parents are in general very well able to clothe their children.

Would not occasional clothing, by way of reward, have a better effect than regular clothing at certain periods?—I conceive so, because it would be unexpected and conditional.

Might not a smaller number in parochial schools be regularly clothed, and children taken, either in rotation or according to their behaviour, into that number?—Certainly, I think it would be preferable to giving clothes indiscriminately to the good and the bad.

Have occasional rewards a good effect in stimulating children to exertion?—A very good effect.

Have you ever witnessed any of those effects, in the schools to which you belong?—Yes; I have known of children excited to uncommon exertion and assiduity.

Do not the poor frequently claim regular allowances as a right, rather than receive them as a boon?—Very frequently so.

Are they not more grateful for occasional gifts than regular bounty?—Certainly.

Have you ever observed that children in Sunday schools improved in their dress and appearance, within a short time after their admission?—Yes, exceedingly so; their habits of decency and order vastly improve; they become clean in their persons and respectful in their behaviour, and, from being dirty, ill-behaved children, become decent and creditable.

What is the cause of this?—When they see other children better clothed than themselves, they apply to their parents for clothes, and generally succeed and get better clothes.

Do you imagine this induces parents to be more industrious and frugal?—Certainly; they are very desirous for the creditable appearance of their children, and they often deny themselves many gratifications to procure clothing for them.

If this occurs with the parents of Sunday school children, might not the parents of children in day schools be induced to adopt the same frugality and industry and care of their children?—I can see no difference, except that the par-

of Sunday school children are generally more necessitous than those of charity school children, because they want their labour in the week.

Is it the practice in charity schools, where they do not give regular clothing, for benevolent individuals frequently to make presents of clothing to the children?—Yes, it is very frequently the case when any children are observed by benevolent persons to be in a very destitute situation, to give clothing to the most ragged, which excites their gratitude to their superiors.

Is it not desirable to excite a more general disposition to instruct the children of the poor throughout the parishes in the metropolis?—Certainly; I conceive all parish schools would be more useful, if the housekeepers and inhabitants properly looked after them, and felt an interest in their prosperity; it would be desirable if masters, when they wanted servants, would see that they were well educated, and this would induce parents to pay more attention to the education of their children.

If an annual examination of the children in parochial schools were to take place, might not this excite an additional interest in the parish?—Certainly so, if it were properly conducted; but I think girls on those occasions should not be brought too forward, as modesty is the ornament of the female character.

Do you think the object of parochial schools might be promoted by an annual meeting?—It would excite the benevolent regard of the inhabitants, and increase the interest felt for the prosperity of the school.

Would this annual examination stimulate the master to prepare the children?—Very much so, and would induce the children to strive to get forward.

Would the school rooms be large enough to admit the parents, the subscribers, and the children?—I think not in general; commodious school rooms are wanted very much, all over the metropolis.

Then how could they be accommodated?—I should think the parish church would be a very suitable place in general.

What has been your plan of annual examination?—The children are generally informed on what subjects they will be examined, and the teachers prepare them accordingly.

In what way are they examined?—They are generally called up, and they repeat chapters or psalms from the scriptures, and hymns and poetry, which they have committed to memory; and sometimes are asked plain questions from the scriptures.

Do the moral sentiments conveyed by the pieces com-

mitted to memory, in your opinion, produce right principles in the minds of children?—Yes, they very frequently recur to their minds, and when they are exposed to temptation, guard them against the evil.

Are children fond of poetic pieces?—Very much so indeed; and they are very useful, because they so soon come to their minds; we also aim to imbue their minds with the scriptures as much as we possibly can.

If any general plan of education for the poor throughout London could be adopted in the respective parishes, do you imagine it would produce a change for the better in the character of the poor?—Very much so indeed.

Have you observed this in the schools to which you belong?—Yes, I have frequently observed the children very much improved in their moral character as well as in their condition.

Have you had much intercourse with their parents?—I very frequently visit the parents of the Sunday school children at their own habitations; they are very grateful for the instruction their children receive, and for the visits of the teachers, from which they often likewise derive many benefits.

Do you think parish officers might more strongly recommend the education of poor children to their parents who apply for relief?—Yes, if they did it without any partiality or preference of religious sect or party, leaving it to the parents to choose which they thought preferable.

Would not poor children be greatly benefited by being kept out of the streets, and sent to day schools?—Exceedingly so; the morals of children derive a vast deal of harm from their playing with idle and depraved children in the streets, and especially upon a Sunday, when children very often herd together, and initiate each other into the commission of crimes, it being a day of leisure.

Do you think the employment of children in schools produces habits of industry?—Very much so.

Has it the effect of fitting them for useful employments?—I have known many cases of great improvement in that respect. I happened to meet two or three children, coming here this morning; one was the first child admitted into the Sunday school with which I am connected; she made a courtesy: I have learned she lives in a creditable situation, as housemaid in a respectable family in the city: and I met one or two others, who are likewise filling creditable situations with their fathers.

Would children be more likely to meet with employment, in your opinion, if they were better educated?—It is one of

the first inquiries we make, when we want servants in trade, how they have been educated; and they are very frequently incapacitated from filling many situations, because they have not been taught when young.

Do you know whether shopkeepers and wholesale houses, in the city, prefer youths from the country, to those born and educated in London?—Very frequently so.

Do they prefer youths in the various capacities of porters, warehousemen, and clerks, and in short, in all the departments of trade?—In most cases they certainly do prefer lads from the country.

Are they also preferred as domestic servants?—In general, so far as my experience extends.

For what reason are they preferred?—Because their character is better known, their morals more frequently uncontaminated; and I think the education of those who are sent off to town has been much better attended to than those persons born in London.

Have you any idea how many young men come up to London annually to seek for situations, both domestic and in trade?—It is impossible to speak with any accuracy; but I have heard many intelligent men, who have had long experience on the subject, calculate that nearly 10,000 come up annually.

Including footmen, porters, and clerks?—All descriptions of servants.

Are you acquainted with any of the principals of the trading and commercial houses of the city of London?—Yes, many of them.

Do you know whether they originally came from the country, or were born in London?—I should think the majority came from the country.

Is it not a remarkable fact, and well known, that the large proportion of the housekeepers in the city of London came from the country?—Yes, I conceive so.

And generally without property?—Most of them, I think.

They have generally risen by their own merit?—Yes, from clerks, or even many of them from inferior situations; they have risen from their attention to business, and good education. Several of our lord mayors have risen from clerk's situations.

Have they chiefly risen by their own merit, and having had the advantages of a useful education?—Yes, I conceive so, and a steadiness and perseverance in their conduct.

If parochial schools in London were better attended to, might not masters and mistresses be more disposed to re-

ceive servants from among the children brought up in those schools?—Yes, if the procuring of suitable situations for the children when they left the school were made an object of importance by the governors of the school. I fear it is too often neglected: the children are left entirely to themselves when they leave parochial schools. In Sunday schools we often obtain situations for the children, either in our own businesses or among our acquaintance.

Do the teachers generally feel an interest for the welfare of the children under their care?—When we see a steady attentive boy, we generally recommend him to some situation where he is likely to be well attended to and prosper. Many of them have succeeded remarkably well, and have become teachers themselves; and many of them, from the lowest state of society, have become respectable characters, and fill useful situations, if not very high ones.

Do you think it of importance to convey moral instruction while communicating knowledge to the children?—Yes, it is of the highest importance; for knowledge, unaccompanied by virtue, very frequently only capacitates for increasing mischief in society.

Is there much difference between the moral character of the Scotch and Irish?—No one, who has been accustomed to visit them at their own habitations, can have failed to observe a marked and decided distinction.

Whence does this distinction arise?—The Scotch are constantly taught, when young, to read their bibles, and accustomed to moral and religious instruction.

From your knowledge of the trading world, and of the children of the poor, do you think a more extensive plan of education would be a public benefit?—I think it would be one of the greatest public benefits.

Would it, in your opinion, lessen public crimes?—I have no doubt of it; for the most guilty criminal characters are commonly the most ignorant; in fact we cannot get them to stay in our schools; we have sometimes gathered them from the highways, and brought them into our schools, but we could never keep them long together.

From your knowledge of the benefits of education, is it your opinion that a more extended plan would greatly promote the public benefit?—I think it would exceedingly so; in Wales, owing to the general establishment of Sunday schools there, in one or two of the counties the prison-doors have been thrown open, and I attribute it to education, because nearly every individual throughout those counties attended the schools.

Are you acquainted whether maid-servants in London

generally come from the country?—I know it is often the case that they are preferred from the country, unless their character can be well ascertained by a respectable and well-known person with whom they have lived before.

Are they not, in a general way, preferred to London servants?—They are in general very much preferred; they have not such connexions, and are in general more steady.

Are they not in general of a better moral character?—Decidedly so.

Does not this partly arise from having a better education?—I think so.

Mr. THOMAS DAVIS, called in, and Examined.

WHAT are you?—A distiller, in Old-street, Saint Luke's.

Are you acquainted with the state of the poor in that neighbourhood?—More so at the parochial school.

How long has that school been established?—In 1698.

Was there another founded in 1761, in addition to the former?—There was.

Upon what foundation is it?—Partly supported from funded property and annual subscriptions.

How was it founded?—I cannot trace the foundation of it; it began upon a small principle; and by the savings of the annual income, the charity has now 6,300*l.* in the three per cent. consols.

What is the annual income of the society?—The yearly income, on the average of the last three years, is 752*l.* per annum.

What have been the yearly expenses, for the same period?—As near 700*l.* as possible.

How many children are educated there?—100 boys and 85 girls now; within these four years, there have been 65 children added to the number.

How many masters have you?—Only one.

Do you teach upon the old or new plan?—Upon the old, generally.

Are the children clothed?—Yes.

Are they boarded?—No.

Nor lodged?—No.

What is the schoolmaster's salary?—100 guineas a-year, and some perquisites.

A house?—Yes; and two chaldron and a half of coals. The girls, 85 in number, one guinea per annum for the instruction of each child.

• To whom is that paid?—To the mistress.

Has the mistress any other perquisite?—She has; the mistress has been many years in the employ of the institution, and she has the privilege of letting children work for the persons who want needlework and such kind of things done; the present conductors of the charity very much object to that part of her emolument, but, being so old, a servant of the institution, they find it difficult to get over it.

What is the yearly expense of clothing?—As near as possible 3*l.* 18*s.* per child, both boys and girls.

Is there any thing in the institution which renders it necessary to clothe as well as educate?—I should think so.

Upon what is that opinion founded?—My opinion is, that the parents of children seek as much for the clothing as they do for education.

Have any of the legacies which have been left to the establishment had any condition annexed to them, of clothing the children?—I should think so; I cannot answer positively.

Who are the trustees of the charity?—They are chosen by the general body of subscribers.

Do you apprehend that any proposition made to them for increasing the number of children educated, and diminishing the number clothed, so as to teach a larger number, and clothe a few by way of reward to those who conducted themselves well, would be favourably received by the trustees?—I should think not.

What objection are they likely to make to that proposition?—Strictly adhering to the old principles of the establishment.

Is there any thing in those principles which is compulsory on the trustees?—That is a question I cannot answer correctly.

Have the trustees ever made any alteration in the management of the charity?—Within these four years there have been alterations made.

What are they?—Visiting committees, who take it in turn to inspect the schools weekly.

Have any alterations been made in the number of children educated?—Within these four years, we have regularly added fifteen each year to the former number.

Then there is no particular number which you are bound to educate?—No.

And consequently, nothing to prevent you extending the education, and diminishing the number clothed?—We clothe all.

When you added fifteen each year to the number, was

there any thing to prevent you from adding a greater number to be educated, and not clothed?—The school would not admit a larger number.

But you have added altogether sixty-five?—Yes.

Might you not, the first year, have taken those whole sixty-five in?—We could not, because our funds would not admit of us maintaining them.

But suppose you had not clothed them, but only educated sixty-five, might you not have done so for a smaller sum than the fifteen were clothed and educated for?—Certainly, without clothing them, we might have extended the education a considerable deal further.

Does it not then appear that you might the first year have taken in the whole sixty-five to educate, at a less cost than you took in fifteen, who were both clothed and educated?—We certainly might have admitted sixty-five had we not clothed them.

Of what classes are the children, generally?—The children of labouring manufacturers, recommended by subscribers, generally very poor.

Have you accommodation for any more children than you now teach?—Not among the boys.

Among the girls?—With some little alterations that are now going on, it is the intention of the committee of the managers to add fifteen more to their number, after their next anniversary, so as to make up the number of 200 children, 100 of each sex.

Do the premises belong to yourselves?—They do, the ground given, and the place built upon it.

Have you ground upon which to build another school?—We have not; we threw out a wing to the boys' school, so as to admit of our taking in the forty-five which we have added to their number; and we are about making the same improvement in the girls department.

Must the children be of the church of England?—They must go to church; we do not object to a child coming from a parent who is not of the church, but the child must go to church.

Have you seen a report by the schoolmaster of Newgate, respecting your school?—I have.

Have you any thing to say touching that statement?—On receiving that report, I considered it my duty as treasurer, to go to Newgate, and to make the best inquiry I was able, as to the materials upon which the report was founded. The keeper of Newgate called the master, Mr. Godinge; and I had a conversation with him, how he came to suffer such a report to go abroad, that in the parochial

school of St. Luke's we had five hundred thieves; he informed me, that the only foundation he had for so framing the report, was from the information he had obtained from a boy, or young man there, of the name of Filby White, who was three or four years prior to that educated in the parochial school. I endeavoured to obtain from him, whether he could furnish me with any further specific cases; he informed me, no; and the only reason that he had for making such an assertion, was from the information furnished by this Filby White, sentenced for seven years transportation. I went to Newgate a second time; I could gain no further information from Godinge than I obtained the first time. His report appeared to be exceedingly unfounded, for he could not, on examining the reports of the convicted persons, find one other person who had been educated in the school, but this Filby White. I was fearful that such report might have injured the interest of the charity very much, for in St. Luke's parish, independent of the parochial school, a vast number of children are educated by charitable persons, to the amount of 1227 children, at different schools and charities. We have a gift called Worrel's Charity, which is an endowment of forty children; Fisher's Charity, to clothe and educate twenty; I am treasurer of that also; and there are children educated in the workhouse to the number, I believe, of about forty; there is another charity called Finsbury school, which is the lordship part of the parish, educating about fifty-two boys and girls; the Lancasterian school in the City Road for five hundred boys; Wallbrook school, for fifty boys and thirty girls; the Orphan working school, ninety children; the Catholic school, 160 boys and sixty girls; making a total of 1227 children. I have no doubt but what there are a great many bad disposed children out of so great a number; but at the same time I found myself hurt, as treasurer, that all the odium of so many children should be placed to the discredit of 185 poor children; the master, who is of fifteen years standing, never knew but one child being discarded the school for theft; in these last four years, we have only discarded eight children for non-compliance with the rules and orders; and on the first day of February 1816 we discharged a boy of the name of John Payne, for theft; those are the only instances that ever I knew, since I have had the conducting of the school, or been at the head of the charity. In Worrel's charity, the children are obligated to go to church; the children of Saint Luke's parochial school are obliged to go to church, likewise; the workhouse children go to church; Finsbury school children go to church; the Lancasterian

children, of course go where their parents wish to take them; the Wallbrook school children go to church; the Orphan school are Protestant Dissenters; and the Catholic school go to their own places of worship.

In addition to the sources of income formerly specified, namely, money in the funds, and annual subscriptions, what other means have you to make up the income above stated by you?—Three charity sermons, from which we generally average about 100*l.* per annum; the next source of income is not always to be depended upon, because it a vast deal depends upon the exertions of the steward on the day of the anniversary dinner; but we have these last three years raised 150*l.* from that resource: the various subscriptions amount to above 313*l.*; gifts and subscriptions amounting in the whole to about 715*l.* per annum.

The Rev. WILLIAM JOHNSON, called in, and Examined.

You are master, chaplain, and accountant, of the Central National school, situated in Baldwin's-gardens?—I am.

How long have you been so?—Four years last March.

How many children are educated there?—About 860 boys and girls.

How many boys and how many girls?—Five hundred and sixty boys and three hundred girls.

For what number have you accommodation?—Not much more than 900; it was intended, in the first instance, to contain 1000. The boys school is complete in number; the girls school might contain 50 more, but the defect of the girls is made up partly by a class of masters and mistresses, who attend for training, exclusive of the others; the average number, in attendance at one and the same time may be between 25 and 30, and in the course of a year we have 150 or 200 of them; they do not stay longer with us than a month or six weeks or two months.

In what way are children admitted into the school?—Once a month, which is the first Friday in every month, we have a day of admission, when the parents attend with their children, and they are then received into the school, provided there be vacancies to receive them.

On priority of application?—Yes; or in some particular cases, where they are very distressed and urgent, they are preferred, the poorest and the most abject.

Do you receive the children of persons not members of the church of England?—Yes, we do; there is no question ever put to any parent, respecting their religion.

What sort of religious instruction do you give the children?

—The course of religious instruction is, we begin with the Lord's prayer, a short grace before and after meat, the two first collects at morning and evening service, taken from the liturgy of the church of England; a prayer on taking their place in church, and on leaving it; the church catechism, and then the same broken into short questions; and the highest class of children, or classes, use Crossman's Introduction to the Christian Religion.

Do you take those children to church?—The school-room is licensed, not having any accommodation in the church; the majority of them attend divine service there, according to the form of the church of England; on an average, 100 go to the parish church.

Have you, in fact, according to the best of your knowledge, many children of Dissenters in that establishment?—Many are Dissenters, and Dissenters of every description, I know.

As nearly as you can estimate, how many may there be?—I cannot tell that.

Are there twenty?—More than that, I might say more than one half are Dissenters; and at this time we have seven Jews.

Do you include in your class of Dissenters, the children of people called Methodists?—Certainly; and also a great number of the parents go to Spa Fields chapel.

You neither clothe nor feed?—No, not generally; we give clothing to some deservng teachers; fifteen or twenty suits may be given in the course of a year, but to none of the children; we give it for exemplary conduct in the teachers.

Is this establishment conducted upon the principle of Dr. Bell's plan?—Exclusively.

Have you any regulation in this establishment for preserving personal cleanliness among the children?—We have, and a copy of the regulations is given to each parent on the admission of their children.

Have there been, to your knowledge, any objections stated by the parents of children sent to this institution, on account of your teaching the Catechism according to the church of England?—Not one, excepting in one case, and that was complied with; it was one Jew boy, whom we have at this moment, and since that he complies with all the regulations of the school.

Do you consider yourself authorized to attend to the feelings or prejudices of individuals upon that subject, by not permitting them to attend to that part of your instruc-

tion?—No, I do not; it is left to me, and hitherto I have acted upon it.

What are the funds of this institution, and from whence do they originate?—I believe from benefactions and voluntary subscriptions.

Can you give any account of the amount of those benefactions and subscriptions?—No, I cannot.

Have you a treasurer to that institution?—Yes.

Who is he?—Mr. Joshua Watson.

What is the yearly expense of Baldwin's-garden school?—The yearly expense nearly 160*l.* a year. I act both as accountant and chaplain, and in the capacity of under-secretary to the National Schools generally.

What is your salary altogether?—One hundred and fifty pounds a year.

How much of that as schoolmaster?—I should think about 80*l.* or 100*l.*; but it is not kept separate.

What is the yearly expense of slates, books, &c. as nearly as you can tell?—The books, as far as I can judge, about 20*l.* a year; slates and pencils, 10*l.* or 12*l.* This calculation I take to be considerably over the mark; for a complete set of our elementary books cost only sixpence, and the same set of books, on an average, will serve three children in succession, before the books are worn out. Each slate costs three-halfpence; the pencils, twopence; pens and ink, twopence halfpenny; making fourpence halfpenny for each child. We do not use paper more than once a week.

How long has this institution been established?—Four years in June, since it was opened.

You have stated, that you had Jews under your care, and many Dissenters; have you found any indisposition among the parents of children to send them to this school, in consequence of their religious persuasion?—Not one instance, but rather the reverse.

Are there, to your knowledge, many schools, on the Lancasterian or other plan, in that neighbourhood?—There were two on the Lancasterian plan, and one in Holborn, which is broken up, on some account, and another in Eagle-street.

Does that school still continue?—I believe it does.

Are you at all acquainted with the number of children there?—No, I am not; but I believe about one hundred.

What number of young persons qualified as teachers have been sent annually, since the commencement of this institution, into the country, or other parts of London?—

On the average, about fifty male and thirty female, making eighty in the whole. In addition to that, we have received from the country to a still larger amount.

Explain the different descriptions of persons whom you receive?—The society have on the list always ten, who receive from the institution an allowance, while they are training, of one guinea per week, in order that they may be ready, when application is made for such from the country, to act either as permanent or temporary masters. There may be, in addition to that ten, as many candidates for the situations, and they are appointed to this pay-list, as we call it, according to seniority, as candidates. The other description of masters and mistresses have been previously appointed by the local committees in the country, and sent up merely to receive instruction.

Have you any copy of the instructions given to those masters and mistresses sent from your institution, for the regulation of their conduct with regard to education?—Not any; that generally is regulated by their own committees to which they belong; but with regard to the mode of instruction they are to pursue, they have a copy of Dr. Bell's instructions for conducting schools, but purchased at their own expense.

Are those male and female teachers uniformly members of the church of England?—I believe so; we have had some exceptions.

Do you, in any instance, send teachers to any body of Dissenters?—No, I believe not.

But they are exclusively sent to members of the established church?—Yes, I believe so.

Who is the President of this institution?—The Archbishop of Canterbury.

At the commencement of the school, is any part of divine service performed by you?—By one of the boys.

What is read?—The two collects of the morning service, the Lord's Prayer, and the Grace of our Lord.

Any thing at the breaking up of the school?—The collects of the evening service only, and in addition to that, one verse from the Evening Hymn is sung, or the Doxology.

Mr. JOHN CLEMENT, a Trustee of Raines's School, and Mr. JOHN VERRALL, Master of the said School, called in, and Examined.

WHEN and by whom was that school founded?—By Mr. Raines, in the year 1719, for educating 50 boys and 50 girls in the principles and duties of the christian religion as were taught by the church of England.

Did he endow it?—He did.

How did he endow it?—With freehold and leasehold estates, and monies in the public funds.

What is the yearly income of the charity?—The average income is something above 1000*l.* a year, and the expenses between 900*l.* and 1000*l.*

What proportion of the income arises from subscription and charity sermons?—About 190*l.* a year, and about 62*l.* from the needlework; the remainder is fixed income.

How many children are educated?—The establishment is for 50 boys and 50 girls.

Is it full?—There are now that number.

Are they clothed?—Yes.

Are they fed?—No. In 1776, an hospital was added by Mr. Raines to the two schools, for 40 of the most deserving girls selected from the old school.

Are they maintained at this hospital?—Entirely.

What do they do in that hospital?—Learn needle-work, and fitted out for service.

How long are they to remain there?—The maidens educated in the hospital remain there four years, and then are put out to service; and on attaining the age of twenty-two, continuing members of the church of England, and on producing testimonials of their good behaviour, six of them are entitled to draw lots for a marriage portion of 100*l.*

What proportion of the expenditure belongs to the hospital, and what to the schools?—Under 500*l.* a year for the hospital, and the rest for the schools.

What is the schoolmaster's salary?—Fifty pounds a year, a house, and coals.

Any other perquisite?—A number of boys, in addition, what we call day boys, whom he is allowed to take.

What is the matron's salary?—Thirty pounds a year.

Is there any assistant master?—Yes, but the master pays him; there is a master to the hospital also.

How are the trustees chosen?—The number of trustees is 47, filled in, when they are reduced to 25, by themselves, under Mr. Raines's will and act of parliament incorporating the charity.

How many years are the boys at school?—They are taken in between eight and nine, and between nine and ten, and continue till they are fourteen, and then put out apprentice, with 3*l.* premium.

What are they taught?—Reading, writing and arithmetic.

Are the trustees bound to clothe as well as to educate?—They are by Mr. Raines's will and the act of parliament. The funds being inadequate, the trustees have been obliged

to reduce nearly one half of the number of children in the hospital; the original number was 40.

Do you admit children of any religious principle, or those of the established church only?—Only those of the established church.

Is that by his will?—It is.

Are there any other salaries in the establishment, besides those you have mentioned?—I know of none.

Mr. EDWARD WENTWORTH, called in, and Examined.

ARE you master of a Sunday school?—I superintend one gratuitously, with 60 teachers, who also give their labours gratuitously.

How many children do you educate?—From 850 to 1000.

Of all religious persuasions?—Yes.

How long have you been so occupied?—Nearly fourteen years.

How long does a child of ordinary capacity take to learn to read?—About three years.

Do you observe any improvement in the children after they come to the school, in their manners or their morals?—Particularly so; I do not know of any institution better calculated to improve their morals.

Do you adopt the new method of instruction?—It is not adapted for Sunday school instruction.

How so?—As it precludes a number of respectable persons from being teachers, which is a great obstruction to the improvement of the children. Sunday school instruction is very much wanted in the parish of Bethnal-green; our school is not sufficient to hold half the number of children that would apply. The Lancasterian institution is not half filled, because the children in that parish are employed at a very early age in the silk manufacturing business, as early as the age of five or six years, and the funds of that institution are inadequate to its support.

Mr. DAVID GOFF, called in, and Examined.

HAVE you been engaged in the conduct of the school to which the last witness has spoken?—I have.

How long?—About eight years.

Do you agree with the last witness?—I do.

In all respects?—Yes.

The Reverend CHARLES CHAMPNES, called in, and Examined.

WHAT are you?—A clergyman, and master of the Coburne school, situated in the parish of St. Mary Stratford-le-Bow Middlesex.

How long have you been so employed?—Two years last March, at which time the school was opened; it was not a school until then.

From what do the funds arise?—A bequest of Prisco Coburne, who died in the year 1701.

Who are the trustees?—The trustees are in number nine, five clergymen and four officers of the parish.

How are the vacancies filled up?—By the appointment of the clergy to the livings.

How many boys and girls?—At present 100 boys and 50 girls.

Are they clothed and fed?—No; 25 boys and as many girls have shoes and stockings twice a-year.

What is the nature of their instruction?—They are instructed precisely on the plan of Dr. Bell; and I believe exactly similar to the system used and pursued at Baldwin's-gardens.

Do you take in children of all religious persuasions?—Certainly.

There is no exclusion by the will of Mrs. Coburne?—No, there is not, except that the children, I believe, are obliged to attend church; we do not enquire what are the religious tenets they profess, but they must attend the church while in the school.

The religious instruction you give is conformable to the tenets of the church of England?—Yes; and we learn them the catechism; in fact, precisely as they do at Baldwin's-gardens.

What is the annual income of the charity?—It is now about 300*l.* per annum.

From what does that arise?—From land, situated chiefly in the parish of Bow, and some in Essex, from freehold and copyhold property.

What is the salary of the master?—One hundred pounds per annum.

The mistress?—Sixty pounds.

Any assistants?—At present the funds are inadequate to employ the assistants who ought to be employed; but as the leases fall in, the rent will be advanced; and it is the intention of the trustees, when their funds will admit, to allow the master and mistress an assistant each.

What is the mode of receiving children into this charity?—It is in the will specifically stated, that there shall be five-and-twenty children, of either sex, educated, inhabitants of Bow parish; but we have enlarged, in consequence of an application to Parliament, the number of children.

Are they selected by the trustees, or by one of them; or how otherwise?—An application is made for admission, and if the trustees have not been particular, I have admitted all resident within the parish of Bow.

At what age do you admit them?—Seven is the age we lay down, but I sometimes admit them earlier.

How long do they continue there?—Till either their education is completed, or their parents choose to withdraw them from the school.

There is no precise period fixed by the founder?—No, none; generally at fourteen they are supposed to leave, because we apprentice them; we apprentice a particular fifty; which we designate the upper scholars; we give a small fee with them.

Was the number to be educated limited by will?—Yes, limited to 50.

Have you since got an act of Parliament to increase that number?—Yes, we have.

What other expenses are there?—The expense of 100 pair of shoes and stockings, those are given at the option of the trustees; nothing is mentioned in the will but the apprenticing the children, and the fee.

Is there any other article of expense, besides those you have named?—Mops and brooms, and things of that sort; and six pounds per annum for a person to take care of the boys to and from church, and whilst at church.

Is the management of the estate in the hands of the trustees alone?—Yes, namely, five clergy and four parish officers.

How are the children admitted?—They apply to me.

Then in point of fact, does not the power of receiving the children remain with yourself?—I have power to receive; and since I have been master I believe I have never refused one; the will states, that we shall receive Bow children, but as our school will contain considerably more than we have, I have never or seldom objected to take the children from another parish.

Have any children, to your knowledge, been admitted by the authority of any other person besides yourself?—The trustees.

They have directed you to receive children in some cases?

—They have; I remember a case where I was desired to admit a child of another parish.

Who are the trustees?—The rector of Whitechapel, the rector of Bow, the rector of Stepney, the rector of Bromley, and the rector of Poplar, the two churchwardens and two overseers of Bow parish, for the time being.

From whom do you receive your salary?—I receive my salary by means of a check drawn upon a banker, which must be signed by either the rector of Whitechapel or the rector of Stepney; and there is also, in addition to that, the signature of one of the officers.

Does it consist with your knowledge, that there are children of all religious persuasions in the school?—Yes.

Can you state correctly the number of those who profess a different religion to that of the established church?—I should think about a quarter of the children are dissenters, those who are not members of the church of England.

Have you any Roman Catholics?—I am not aware of it, or Jews either.

Have you found any difficulty in taking those children to church; any reluctance?—Not the least, in no case; and even those parents that I knew were Dissenters, were very willing that their children should go to church, because upon admission, I tell them, and they afterwards receive a paper to the same effect, that they must attend school at particular hours, come clean, and that they must attend church twice on a Sunday.

The committee are to understand, then, that it is an indispensable part of your plan that the children cannot be admitted unless they consent to go to church?—We tell them they are to go to church if they come to school, and I know of no instance in which they have not complied with that direction; neither am I aware that any child has been withheld from school in consequence of the necessity of their attending church.

But is it a regulation of this charity, that all the children should be taken to church twice on a sabbath-day?—Yes, it is, where a gallery has been built for their reception.

[Adjourned to to-morrow, twelve o'clock.

Veneris 31^o dñe Maii 1816.

HENRY BROUGHAM, Esq. in the Chair.

The Reverend GEORGE GASKIN, D. D., called in, and examined.

ARE you secretary to the society in Bartlett's-buildings for promoting Christian knowledge?—Yes; and the society has always had for one of its leading objects the assistance of parochial schools in connection with the church of England, and that from the year 1698, which is the date of our foundation.

In what way do you render assistance to parochial schools?—By assisting them with books at about half the prime cost, that is one of the modes; all the books that are used in the parochial schools of London, and not only in London, but all over England, where they apply for them, they have them on the terms of the society, which is about half prime cost.

In order to render assistance to any school, do you require they should comply with any other terms than being merely connected with the church of England?—No.

Whence do your funds arise?—Partly from voluntary contributions, and partly from funded property.

What is the amount of your annual income?—Our annual income is to be considered in different points of view; it arises partly from the produce of the funded property, partly from the annual subscriptions of the members, partly from casual donations, and partly from the payments that are made for books.

What should you say, one year with another, was about your expenditure?—Last year our expenditure was little less than 40,000*l.* and our income was not so much; our expenditure exceeded our income. I have not a very accurate statement of it present, but upon consideration I rather think the income was about 40,000*l.* and the expenditure was nearer 50,000*l.*

Are the parochial schools in London supplied by you?—They are, on the terms of the society, and throughout England likewise.

Will you be pleased to furnish the committee with a list of the schools within the metropolis supplied by you, and naming, if you can, the master and the treasurer of each?—

I am apprehensive there may be schools furnished by us in the metropolis, a precise detail of which we cannot give, but all the established schools we annually print a little account of.

The Rev. JAMES STEWART, called in, and examined.

You have heard the examination of the last witness?—I have.

Have you any thing to add to those particulars he has stated?—He is secretary, and of course much better acquainted with the society than I am; I am only a member, attending sometimes their meetings, and have nothing to add to what Dr. Gaskin has stated.

Are you acquainted with the establishment at Percy Chapel?—I am both the proprietor of it, and the minister of it.

When was that established?—In November 1812, or the beginning of 1813.

Upon what plan?—It is in some measure a plan of my own. When I came to Percy Chapel, which is a chapel in the parish of St. Pancras, and is connected with the parish church, and is private property; when I bought that chapel, I found that there was no place in the parish, in the established church, where the poor could attend for divine worship, or where the children were much attended to; the only society for educating the poor was a female parochial school, which had at that time forty children; and I went round to some of the poor people in the neighbourhood, and told them it was my wish to have a Sunday school for teaching children, and that it would begin on the next Sunday, and there were 120 children applied for admission; in consequence of this, I then drew up a plan for their regular instruction; they are taught by ladies and gentlemen, who come to the chapel, and are divided into small classes of from nine to fourteen each: each lady and gentleman instructs them gratuitously.

How many are taught altogether?—There are 220.

Every Sunday?—Yes. And then there is besides that, a school which was set on foot almost immediately after by some ladies, a day school of industry, where there are seventy girls taught.

What are the funds of the first of these establishments?—It is supported by voluntary contributions.

What is the yearly amount?—The expense is very small, something about 80*l.* a year; the expenses are, that of books, and the remuneration to the persons who keep the children

in order during divine service; but there is no expense for teachers, they are all taught by ladies and gentlemen, and the school is held in the aisles of the chapel, and part in the gallery, which was built for their accommodation.

Is there any other day for instruction?—Not in the first mentioned school.

Are they taught any thing but reading?—No.

How long have you found that a Sunday school takes to instruct a child of ordinary capacity in reading?—It varies; there are some of them have been taught in three months; but our object is not so much to teach them to read, as it is to give them religious instruction; they are taught to read, and some of the classes are taught upon Dr. Bell's plan; we do not wish so much to have those children who cannot read, because there are more applications, or at least fully as many, for religious instruction, as there is room for, of those who can read.

What are the ages?—From seven to fourteen.

How long may the average be, of those who cannot read, before they are taught to read?—I think in six months, generally; they do not read in the Bible in general; there is a regular course in which the classes go forward, and it would be two years before they got into the Bible class, but that arises from other circumstances.

You have no doubt that instances have occurred, in which you have taken in children who could not read at all?—Yes.

Can you give any idea of what the average time is before a child can read tolerably well?—I can scarcely say, because there are other circumstances which prevent their being in the Bible class; they are not moved into that class till they have learned the church catechism, and so many of Dr. Watts's hymns, and so many chapters in the Bible.

Independent of the Bible class, how long does it take, generally speaking, before a child, knowing nothing of his letters, can learn to read easily?—I should think they would learn in nine months; we have had several of them who have not been in the Bible class.

Without any intermediate instruction between Sunday and Sunday?—Only what they give themselves.

But suppose a child has no intermediate instruction between Sunday and Sunday, in what time do you think he would be able to read; in nine months?—No, I do not think he would.

In short, you have no means of forming an accurate estimate upon the subject?—No; our object is to bring them on as fast as we can, and we give them small books to take home to read in the course of the week.

Are you not of opinion that it requires eighteen months

or two years to teach a child to read, who has only instruction afforded him on a Sunday?—A child, if he will read during the week any book, and take the opportunities that may be afforded him, with the instruction that may be given on a Sunday, will learn to read in a much shorter time. I have no means of ascertaining how long it would take, supposing a child was only to have a book just on a Sunday, and then to have the book shut and not opened again till the following Sunday morning.

Are you not of opinion that it would require eighteen months or two years to teach a child to read a chapter in the Bible?—I think it might.

From what you know of the day-school, how long do the children there take to learn to read?—There are other circumstances in the day-school which prevent them being put into the Bible class.

How long does a child in the day-school, of ordinary capacity, take to learn to read?—About eight months; we have had some instances of their learning much quicker, but I should think that that was the average time.

Mr. RICHARD CORP again called in, and further examined.

Have you brought the account of the admission of children into the hospital?—The account of certain children, to which the committee alluded to, I have; here are seven accounts of the admission of the children who have been complained of as improper objects of charity. [They were delivered in.]

[The following was read:]

“ 23d March 1792.

“ To the Right Honourable, Right Worshipful, and Worshipful, the Governors of Christ’s Hospital, London.

“ The humble petition of Thomas Penn, of the parish of Saint Nicholas, in Rochester, Kent, ironmonger,

“ Humbly sheweth,

“ That the petitioner has a wife and five children to provide for, and he finds it difficult to maintain and educate so large a family without assistance; therefore he humbly beseeches your worships, in your usual pity and charity to distressed men, poor widows, and fatherless children, to grant the admission of one of his said children into Christ’s Hospital, named Thomas Ford Penn, of the age of nine years and upwards, there to be educated and brought up among other poor children.

Born 18 April, }
Bapt’d 18 May, } 1783.”

" We, the minister, churchwardens, and others, of the parish of Saint Nicholas, in Rochester, Kent, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do certify, that Thomas Penn, father of the said Thomas Ford Penn, is a freeman of the city of London and company of patten-makers, and that the said child is at present of the age of nine years and upwards, having been born in the month of April 1783, and is no foundling, nor maintained at the parish charge; and that we know of no probable means for the education of the said child, unless the said governors of Christ's Hospital should admit him into the said hospital, which, if they shall be pleased to do, we, together with the father of the said child, do fully consent and agree to leave the said child to the disposal of the governors of the said hospital, to bind him an apprentice to such trade or calling, whether for land or sea employments, as they shall judge the said child most fit and proper for; and we, together with the father of the said child, do promise and oblige ourselves not only to ratify and confirm the same; (in case the governors of the said hospital shall please to dispose of the said child) but also we, the minister and churchwardens aforesaid, for ourselves and our successors, promise and oblige ourselves to discharge the said hospital of the said child at the age of fifteen years, or at any time before or after the said age, whensoever the said hospital shall require the same of us. Witness our hands, this day of March one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three.

CHARLES ALLEN,	-	Minister.
CHAS. BOND,	}	Churchwardens.
JAMES JEATER,		
E. DYNE,		
WALTER PRENTIS,	}	Three housekeepers.
MATTHEW HEATH,		
THOMAS PENN,		
	-	The petitioner."

" Adm. Comm. 13 } March 1793.
Clothed 14 }

" Rochester, Kent."

" I present Thomas Ford Penn. Free the child mentioned in the certificate on the other side, and believe the same to be a true certificate, the christian name and sire name of the said child being by me inserted at full length, according to order of Court the 20th of June, 1759. Witness my hand, this 12th day of March, 1793.

" 13 March 1793,

THOS. FORD PENN.

NATH^l. NEWNHAM"

" Exam^d WM. LONG.

J. ROBERTS.

" These are to certify, that Thomas Ford Penn, son of Thomas Penn and Anne his wife, was born the eighteenth day of April,* and was baptized the eighteenth day of May, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, as appears by the register book of christenings belonging to the parish of St. Nicholas, Rochester, in the

* " If the time of the child's birth does not appear in the register, this line may be obliterated."

county of Kent; and extracted from the said register this eighth day of March 1793.

“ Witness my hand, CHARLES ALLEN, { ‘ Vicar, and
Register Keeper.”

“ Kent. Rochester, Saint Nicholas.

“ 1782.

“ Page 32.

“ No. 128.

“ Thomas Penn, of this parish, a bachelor, and Ann Pluckwell, of the same parish, spinster, were married in this church by banns, this seventeenth day of June, in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-two, by me,

CHARLES ALLEN, Vicar.

“ This marriage was solemnized } ‘ THOMAS PENN,
between us - - - - - } ANN PLUCKWELL.”

“ In the presence of { WILL. SALTONSTALL.
JEMIMA ARNE.”

“ The above written is an extract from the marriage register belonging to this parish. Witness my hand, this eighth day of March 1793.

CHARLES ALLEN, Vicar.”

[The following Petitions were read:]

Of Thomas Penn, of the parish of St. Nicholas, Rochester, in the county of Kent, ironmonger, dated 4th April 1794; shewing, that he has a wife and six children, one of whom is under their worships’ care in the hospital, and the remaining five are under fourteen years of age, and dependent upon him for maintenance and education. With the date of the admission of his child; viz. 17th Sept. 1794.

Of George Young, of the parish of Edmonton, in the county of Middlesex, jeweller, dated 7th April 1797; shewing, that he has a wife and five children to provide for, the charge of whose maintenance and education he finds difficult to support. With the date of the admission of his child, viz. 10th January 1798.

Of George Young, of the parish of Edmonton, in the county of Middlesex, jeweller, dated 21st March 1800; shewing, that he has a wife and six children; the eldest of whom is now under their worships’ protection, and he finds the profits of his business unequal to the maintenance of so numerous a family. With the date of the admission of his child; viz. 11th June 1800.

Of Thomas Penn, of the parish of Saint Nicholas, in Rochester, in the county of Kent, ironmonger, dated 1801; shewing, that his wife died in July 1799, leaving him with a family of six children, four of whom were under fourteen years of age, and dependent upon him for support. With the date of the admission of his child; viz. 9th Sept. 1801.

Of John Bridges, of the parish of All Saints, in Malden, in the county of Essex, merchant, dated 2d April 1802; shewing, that he

has a wife and eight children, six of whom are under fourteen years of age, and dependent upon him for maintenance and education. With the date of the admission of his child; viz. 14th July 1802.

Of the Reverend Dawson Warren, vicar of the parish of Edmon-ton, in the county of Middlesex, dated the 20th of March 1807; shewing, that he has a wife and seven children, to whom he is desirous of affording a good education, which his preferment in the church does not enable him to do without assistance. With the date of the admission of his child; viz. 8th July 1807.

Of the Reverend Baptist John Proby, of the parish of Saint Mary, in Litchfield, clerk, in orders, dated 15th March 1808; shewing, that he has a wife and four young children to provide for, and his church preferment does not exceed three hundred pounds per annum, against which there are large deductions and considerable outgoings, so that he is in circumstances of difficulty and distress. With the date of the admission of his child; viz. 26th April 1808.

Are those papers which you have delivered in some of those which were before the Court of Chancery, in a proceeding instituted there in 1811?—They are.

By whom was the proceeding in Chancery instituted respecting these cases?—By a petition of individuals, who were understood to be a certain number of the select committee appointed by the court of common council, “To inquire and report whether the corporation of the city of London have any and what means of obtaining inquiry into, and reforming, the presentations and admissions of children into the hospital; and who, in presenting such petition, acted under the resolution of the court of Common Council, whereby it was referred to the same committee to take such measures in the business as they should be advised.”

Do you remember the names of any of the individuals who promoted that proceeding, and that signed that petition?—I remember some names: Mr. Waithman and Mr. Griffiths were two.

Upon what ground did the application to the Chancellor proceed?—By stating that the governors had admitted children improper objects of a charitable institution, or to that effect.

Did it set forth the above as instances of such improper admissions?—It did.

Was it from any thing that appeared upon the face of the presentations, themselves?—I believe not, because I do not think they had seen them.

What objections had been stated, in the proceedings, to those admissions?—Generally, that the parents were in

better circumstances than they ought to be, to have a child maintained in a public charity.

Did those objections apply to the truth of the statements upon the face of the certificate?—I believe it was only from opinion formed and statements made of individuals, that those boys were not fit objects of that charity.

Do you mean that that opinion and those statements went to deny the statements in the certificates?—I believe, if the committee refer to it, it will virtually deny it.

Do you recollect, for instance, any objections that were made to Thomas Ford Penn's admission?—There was no objection ever stated to his admission.

In the course of those proceedings in Chancery, were there any stated?—The objections were, like all the others, that they were generally in circumstances unfit for a charitable institution.

Were any particulars gone into with respect to Penn, in the proceedings in Chancery?—There was an affidavit in Chancery, of Charles Turner, Esq. of Mount-hill House, near Rochester, stating that the man was in opulent circumstances, and able to maintain and educate his children without the assistance of the hospital, and giving the particulars of his income and property.

Was there any evidence given in answer to Mr. Turner's affidavit, and in support of Penn's statement in his certificate?—The boys were discharged.

Were they discharged upon this proceeding being instituted in Chancery?—They had left the school.

Was there any answer made to Mr. Turner's affidavit, or any other evidence given to shew that Penn was in distressed circumstances?—I believe a reference was made to the affidavit; we had only those presentations in opposition to that affidavit. I was sent down to Rochester to acquire what information I could, but could not find any person able to state in what circumstances he died.

Did you speak to the clergyman of the parish?—I inquired of many housekeepers in the street where he lived, but not of the clergyman.

Did you inquire of the housekeepers who lived next door to him?—I believe I inquired of the person who succeeded to his trade in the very house; and all that I could collect was, that he was a very penurious man, and close as to the situation of his property.

But you did not inquire of the two people who lived next door to him?—I think I did; also of a gentleman who had many years resided there, a tenant of the hospital's, in the hope of his being able to give me information, but he could not.

How long after Mr. Penn's death did you go to Rochester?—When the bill was filed in 1811.

When did he die?—In 1808.

Did the governors put in an answer to the before-mentioned affidavit?—They did.

Are you aware of what answer they made to this complaint respecting Penn?—I have not a copy of the bill and answer.

Are you aware of what evidence was produced to rebut the accusation contained in the affidavit which has been read?—There was no other opportunity that we had, but presenting the petitions themselves.

What were the objections made to Young's two children?—They had left the hospital before the proceeding took place, but the affidavits in Chancery went to shew that Young, the father, died worth somewhere about 5000*l.* subject to debts; he was known to have been a shopkeeper in no flourishing circumstances: there was an affidavit also of Mr. Young's brother, stating that Young's income did not, in his life-time, amount to more than 300*l.* or thereabouts; and that his circumstances were in no degree better, but rather worse at the time of the child's admission; and that he verily believes that what he left, after paying his debts, would not afford an income of more than 200*l.* a year; he also states the freehold estate at 1335*l.* instead of 1521*l.* which the other affidavit made it; and that, during his life-time, he was much afflicted with the stone, which rendered him incapable of any active employment.

Was there any evidence as to Bridges?—There was an affidavit of John Wyatt Lee, Esq. of Munden-hall, near Malden, stating generally that he was informed and believed that Bridges was in opulent circumstances, without stating any particulars.

What were the objections stated to Mr. Warren's case?—Mr. Warren attended in the court of Chancery to answer any questions, but he declined making an affidavit; there was an affidavit of John Merrington, who had been churchwarden and overseer of the poor in his parish, and had resided twenty-five years in it, stating Mr. Warren's income, from his own knowledge of the particulars of it, as amounting in the whole to 1200*l.* a year.

Relate what took place, to the best of your recollection, with the assistance of the minutes, at the admission of Warren?—At his admission eleven members of the committee were present, and some conversation of considerable extent arose, because a member considered Mr. Warren had too large an income to ask for the admission of his son; it was put to the vote whether he was a fit object or not, and his

admission was ordered by a small majority; then afterwards the question came before the committee of Almoners, upon the eighteenth day of March 1809, when a long letter was read from the Rev. Dawson Warren, the father, upon his case; he states at the bottom of his letter thus: "When I attended the committee, on the admission of my boy, I considered that my income, on the average of my whole residence at Edmonton, had been 710*l.* per annum; on the average of the three years then expired, 850*l.* If I now consider it up to last Christmas, I should call it 860*l.*" That is the close of a long statement he made respecting his circumstances. "Thereupon resolved, that the president should be requested to submit that letter to the consideration of the general court, and to order that notice thereof should be given in the summons."

Did the general court take it up in pursuance of that notice?—They did; they met the 4th of March, pursuant to the notice in summons, to consider the case of the boy of Dawson Warren.

What proceeding then took place?—I will read the minute of the court, which is as follows: "After some debate, it was moved and seconded, that the said child should be sent home to his father; upon which an amendment was proposed, but after some further debate withdrawn: the question was then put upon the original motion, which the president considered to be carried in the affirmative; whereupon a division was demanded, and in such division, the numbers appeared to be, for the question 41, against it 45; the court was then moved to resolve, that the governors now assembled in court are of opinion that Dawson Warren; admitted on the foundation, is not a child that comes within the rules and regulations established for the admission of children to the benefits of this charity, but this court, in pronouncing this opinion, would feel themselves much concerned to act with that rigour which would prejudice or injure the child, they therefore suffer him to be continued; which motion, having been seconded, was, upon the question being put, carried in the negative." There was nothing further done at that meeting.

What further was done?—On the 28th of March 1809, I entered on the register his discharge in these words, "Dawson Warren, discharged, with consent of the president, by his father, the minister of Edmonton, in consequence of the regret he felt upon learning that the question respecting the continuance of his son upon this foundation has produced a disunion of sentiment among the governors, likely to be prejudicial to the interests of the establishment."

How long had the boy been upon the establishment altogether?—He was clothed upon the 9th of July, 1807.

When was the first notice taken of his case?—In March, 1809, in consequence of a motion made in the common council.

Were there any further proceedings with respect to Mr. Warren?—Nothing further.

What were the proceedings with respect to Mr. Proby's case?—There were affidavits produced, and one from himself shewing the state of his circumstances, by which it appeared that he had two livings, amounting to about 400*l.* a year, out of which he had to pay a curate; that he had received 3500*l.* from his father, and had an expectancy, on his mother's decease, of 3000*l.* more, besides being entitled to about 80*l.* a year in right of his wife, together with 1000*l.* of marriage portion, but that his father had left him 5*l.* only by his will, and that he was himself in debt.

What other proceedings were held with respect to Mr. Proby's case, by the hospital?—At a meeting of the committee upon the 11th of January, 1809, at which fourteen members were present, the Rev. Baptist John Proby, father of the boy John Carysfort Proby, admitted in April, 1808, attended the committee, to answer the assertion in a pamphlet recently published, signed by Robert Waithman, respecting his income; and it was ordered, that the court should be summoned to consider specially of this case. The committee accordingly met the 1st of February, 1809, seventeen governors present; it is recorded thus: "The committee having been summoned to consider the case of the boy John Carysfort Proby, as by order of the last committee, in consequence of the public charge, that the said boy is not, from the circumstances of his father, the Rev. B. J. Proby, a proper object of admission into this hospital; it was resolved, after very mature deliberation and investigation, that the said child is a fit and proper object for maintenance and education in this hospital."

How long did the boy remain altogether?—He was admitted in April, 1808, and discharged in July, 1810, the father writing a letter to that effect, in which he stated he found his circumstances sufficiently improved to enable him to educate his child himself.

Besides those cases brought forward in the proceeding in Chancery, have you any others, of persons who improperly or doubtfully availed themselves of the charity, which have come to your knowledge?—I know of none, of my own knowledge.

If any complaints respecting such had been made to the governors, must they not have come to your knowledge,

from your official situation?—They must; I received a notice from the city, mentioning other cases as being improper objects, preparatory to the abovementioned suit; Mr. Newman, the city solicitor, inclosed me the particulars, as under, in which the following cases, besides those already mentioned, were specified; the two sons of Egerton Stafford, the son of Mason Wright, the son of Jonathan Hammond, the son of the Reverend M. Wild, the two sons of Dr. Markham, the son of ——— Ives of Chertsey, and the son of Thatcher.

Upon receiving this notification, what did you do?—I laid it before the court the day after, who ordered, after some debate, That such letter, and its inclosure, should lie upon the table; and the clerk was directed to inform the city solicitor of this resolution; and nothing further was done.

Did you find the papers respecting those persons last mentioned?—I did not search for them.

Are you aware of the objections made to their admission, by the parties who served you with the above notice?—It was a general objection, that they were improper objects, from the situation of their families.

Did the particulars upon which those objections were founded ever come to your knowledge?—Never.

Was any notice taken of these cases, in the proceedings in Chancery?—I believe they were all abandoned; but I cannot speak to it with certainty.

Do you know any thing of Mr. Egerton Stafford, whose two sons were admitted?—No.

Were there any such boys as the sons of Dr. Markham ever admitted into the hospital?—I do not find any such, where their names ought to be, of persons admitted.

Were you not directed by the governors of the hospital to allow any governor to inspect and take copies of all petitions and certificates of boys that had been admitted into the hospital, which they might think proper?—I was.

Since receiving those directions; have you ever refused any governor?—Certainly not.

Have you found any of the names of the cases now last referred to?—I have found four cases, of the names of Hammond, Wild, Ives, and Thatcher.

In the proceedings in Chancery, what took place after the affidavits already referred to were filed?—After the petition was presented, the governors were obliged to appear upon it; and in consequence of the necessity so imposed, of appearing, such proceedings as it was imperative upon them to take, were taken under the general authority vested in the committee of the hospital for the time being, to guard

the interests of the house; and they were taken by and under the direction and advice of Chancery barristers of the first eminence; the petition came on before the Lord Chancellor, and the arguments upon it occupied the 12th, 13th, and 15th days of July, 1811; the Lord Chancellor reserved his decision, and has not yet pronounced judgment.

Were all the proceedings on both sides finished as long ago as July, 1811?—I have not heard from the solicitor that any thing further has transpired; but that is not in my department.

Has the Chancellor ever taken any steps since that, in the case of this charity, the parties having then severally closed their cases?—The solicitor has not informed me that any further notice has been taken of it.

Have you any doubt that nothing further has been done by the Chancellor?—I have no doubt in my mind that it rests where it did.

Mr. FRANCIS JOWERS, called in, and examined.

What are you?—By trade a builder.

Do you know any thing of Mrs. Coburne's charity?—Yes, I do.

When was it founded?—One hundred and two, or one hundred and three years back.

For what description of children?—For the education of 25 boys and 25 girls.

For their board as well as education?—No.

Clothing?—Education only, except shoes and stockings, which I believe is not mentioned in the will.

How is it endowed?—Through a widow of the name of Coburne, who left certain property in lands and houses, producing an income of about 303*l.* per annum.

In what property?—In freehold land and other property, in Mile-End Road, consisting of one house and between six and seven acres of land; some freehold houses or copyhold, in the parish of Bow; a farm at Bocking; and a piece of copyhold land in Old Ford, which is in the parish of Bow also.

What are the salaries of this establishment?—The master has 100*l.* per annum; the mistress 60*l.*

There are 100 boys and fifty girls?—I think not.

How many are there?—To the best of my observation there may be from 80 to 90 boys, and from 30 to 40 girls.

Now?—Yes.

Then how does it happen that Mr. Champnes, the master,

states the boys at 100, and the girls at 50?—That I am not prepared to answer, for I have not seen Mr. Champnes.

Are there more names on the book than actually attend?—No doubt there are; there are frequently children taken in, and frequently children leaving.

Do you mean, when you say how many children there are, to refer to the present time?—I do mean at this time; nor do I think that the master himself could ascertain the number of children that he had in reality.

Why could not he ascertain?—As many leave without giving notice.

Are you acquainted with the property from whence the revenue of this school arises?—I am.

Will you repeat its annual amount?—I do not know that I can distinctly repeat every individual one; the gross amount is 303*l.* 10*s.*

Are you acquainted with the value of this property at the period of the decease of Mrs. Coburne?—At the period of the decease of Mrs. Coburne the property was certainly materially less; but what the amount was I do not know.

Are you acquainted with the value of this property 20 or 25 years ago?—I think that the value of it was nearly where it is now, for at that time it was let upon leases; but some of those leases have since expired.

Have you any expectation of an improvement of this property at the expiration of the present leases?—We have.

To what extent?—My idea is about 300*l.* in addition to the present revenue; it has been stated at 500*l.*

State to the committee, to the best of your knowledge, the mode in which the present revenue of the charity is applied.—One hundred pounds to the master; 30*l.* to the mistress; coals may be about 25*l.*; we have now fixed it to 7½ chaldrons; and we have given 100 pair of shoes and stockings per annum.

How much in value?—I cannot say; I should think the shoes and stockings stand us in from 25*l.* to 30*l.*

Are there any other expences?—There are; there are expenses for the school-books, for the use of the children, which is defrayed out of the income.

To what amount are those expenses?—I cannot say what the amount is.

Can you form any estimate?—About 20*l.*

Any thing else?—Six pounds we pay a man to attend the children to church; 5*l.* we allow for expenses of brooms and brushes, and various other incidental expenses.

Independent of the sundry expenses?—Yes.

Any thing else?—There are four sermons in the year;

each sermon there is 5*l.* paid to the rector by the will, and 1*l.* to the clerk; there are also 5*l.* given to the poor four times a year, and that on certain days, on the days that the sermons are preached:

In conformity to the will?—Yes.

Any thing further?—That is the principal of our expenditure.

Has there not been, for a great many years back, an accumulation from the profits and interests of those estates?—

There has.

To what amount?—The accumulation is between 900*l.* and 1000*l.*

Up to what period?—The year 1812 or 1813.

In what way was that accumulation disposed of?—Prior to our present situation we had no regular school; it was a school-house, an old building that stood in the parish; left by Sir John Jolis; the charity availed themselves of it, and made use of this place, it being rent-free. In consequence of the accumulation of our property, an application was made to the Chancellor, for permission to build a school upon a part of the estate left by the deceased: a grant was given, and the school was built, with school-house for the master and mistress: that school-house far exceeded in expenses what was calculated upon at the time.

To what extent?—Fourteen hundred pounds was our calculation, and 1900*l.* was our expense, which left us minus a considerable sum.

Do you consider that the estate is liable to that debt?—We, as trustees, borrowed money upon our own responsibility. We applied to the Master for permission to sell part of the estate holden by Lord Henniker; he has an estate situate at Stratford; a very small portion of our land, not more than three quarters of an acre, is intermixed with his lordship's property, which he holds on lease. His lordship applied to the trustees, for the purchase of this estate. The Master, considering the bargain which we had made with Lord Henniker, subject to his approbation, a provident and good one, confirmed it, subject to the Bill now passing through Parliament; that Bill, I believe, has nearly passed the House; it is a bill allowing the trustees of the Coburne estate to sell certain property, situated at Stratford, in the county of Essex to Lord Henniker. The sum Lord Henniker was to pay for this land was 1900*l.* Our intentions were, with the Master's permission, to pay off the debt which we had accumulated, and to lay out the surplus money in such freehold or other property as the Master should approve. The sum which we now receive from Lord Henniker, or did prior to this bargain, was fifty guineas per annum. My cal-

culatation is this, that we shall be able to reimburse that fifty guineas per annum out of the surplus money that will be left after we have paid our debt, so as not to diminish our present income at all; we shall still have the same income as before. I calculate further, that at the end of twelve years, a valuable plot of ground, situated upon the Bow-road, the lease of which will expire shortly, and which ground forms part of our bill before Parliament, we shall be able to let on building leases; the rent of which now produces us fifty pounds a year, and which I calculate will then produce from three to four hundred pounds.

In what way and by what authority are children received into the school?—We have not sufficient applicants according to the room of our school; perhaps there has not been that strictness which there should have been; it was arranged that they should be received or admitted by a committee, but in consequence of the frequent leaving of the children, and the committee not meeting often enough, the master has been permitted to admit the children.

Do you know at present how many children there are who attend that school?—I have noticed the children as they have passed along, and I have noticed them in the church, and I should think from 80 to 90 boys, and from 30 to 40 girls; in stating this, I do not say there are not a greater number of names down, for the children are so frequently changing, and this may be done without the master wishing to make the number appear more than they really are. Our schools are capable of holding a much greater number, our calculation being, at the time we built them, for room enough to contain 150 of each sex in the two distinct schools. And there is one thing I would state in relation to the funds, it does appear that at about the end of three years we shall be able to educate and clothe 300 children; but my opinion is, not more than those.

What is the reason why a greater number of children do not apply for education?—I have enquired of several of the parents, who pleaded their poverty as the cause; as soon as their children get to be six or seven years of age, if any kind of employment, such as silk mills, chalk-cutting, or any thing else, can be found, they are under the necessity of taking them from their school to assist in earning their maintenance.

In your opinion, does the present schoolmaster and the present schoolmistress perform respectively their duties?—I think more might be done.

The Rev. DANIEL MATHIAS. called in, and examined.

You are rector of Whitechapel, and one of the trustees of Mrs. Coburne's school?—Yes, I am.

Are you in the habit of frequenting that school, and observing what passes?—I have been an active member of the committee since my residence in the parish, which is about seven or eight years; the rector of Stepney I considered as the head of the trustees.

The head rector was a very active person in this trust?—Certainly.

Are not the schoolmaster and schoolmistress paid by your draft, or by yourself in some way?—I sign the draft, after it has been previously settled and approved of by the trustees upon the spot, and then it is brought to one of the clergymen trustees, generally to me, and I sign it; and it is paid at the bankers.

Do you consider yourself as a trustee, authorized to apply the funds of this charity to the clothing and maintenance of children, as well as to their learning?—By the powers of our new bill it is part of our act of parliament so to empower us.

Has that bill passed the Lower House?—I think it is now in the Lower House.

Are you acquainted with the number of charity schools?—There are three charity schools; there is the original foundation of a former rector, the Rev. Ralph Davenant, which was founded, I believe, somewhere about the Revolution, or ten years before.

What are the revenues of that school?—I do not know the exact particulars, but I should think the endowment is about 300*l.* a year, the subscriptions perhaps as much, and some funded property likewise.

Part of your property is leasehold and freehold estates?—It is all freehold, consisting of two estates left by the original founder.

How many children are educated in that school?—The original foundation was for 40, it was increased then to 100: at what time the increase took place, I cannot tell, but it continued at 100 till 1807, when, by the savings and further exertions in the parish, the numbers were increased to 200, where they now are.

Do you feed and clothe those children?—Clothe and educate them.

Do you confine the scholars of this school to children whose parents are members of the church of England?—By the founder's will they must be born in the parish, and bap-

tized in the parish, and bring a certificate of their baptism from the parish-register: the parishioners are preferred; those that have a settlement are preferred; but when there is not enough of them, then the non-parishioners.

Can you state any particulars of any other school?—The Gower's-walk school is the concern of a private individual, carried on at his own individual expense, and now nearly supporting itself by the work conducted in that school, which is printing; and with very little aid, I believe, it nearly supports itself. Mr. William Davis is the founder and conductor of it.

For how many children?—I believe 250.

For education alone?—Education and rewards of merit, which are distributed and kept in a peculiar way; and when a good child leaves the school, he will have to receive rewards to the amount of five, six, or eight pounds, perhaps.

Do they clothe at this school?—Occasionally give clothes to part of the children.

Any other school?—The great school, which was built for 1000 children; I was the first planner and promoter of it; the national school, for education alone.

Are you in the habit, in that school, of admitting any children but those of the church of England?—Of every description, without any distinction whatever; and the rule we laid down, which was prepared by myself and submitted to the bishop of London, who approved of it very much, was, that children of every denomination, without any inquiry whatever, should be admitted into the school.

Have you then, in fact, in that school, Dissenters of various descriptions?—Dissenters of all descriptions, and even some Jews; if a Dissenter sends his child, and makes any objection to the child being taught the catechism, he is not obliged to learn it, or submit to be taught; if a Dissenter objects to his child being brought to church on the Lord's day, he is not to be obliged, but assurances are to be given to the master that the child is taken to some place of divine worship.

Adjourned to to-morrow, twelve o'clock.

Sabbati, 1^o die Junii 1816.

HENRY BROUGHAM, Esq. in the Chair.

THE Chairman delivered in the following letter, which was read :

“ SIR,

“ I transmit to you a paper containing an account of the receipts and payments of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, for one year, ending at the annual audit in April last. From that paper it will appear, that besides the sums actually paid, there still remains a very considerable sum due to the booksellers, the difference between 32,357*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* and 20,214*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.* I also transmit a “ General Account of the Society,” printed in the year 1813, the last that was printed ; and the annual Report for the year 1814, that for 1815, not being yet ready for delivery. In the former of these you will find, page 275, an account of the Charity Schools of the metropolis ; but they are only such as compose the annual assemblage in St. Paul’s cathedral. To these schools, and to all other Charity Schools in connection with the church, that apply for them through the medium of members of the Society, books are furnished on the customary terms, the Society being at about one-half of the expense. I shall be happy to furnish any other information in my power ; and remain,

“ Sir, very respectfully yours,

“ GEO. GASKIN.

“ Bartlett’s Buildings, May 31, 1816.”

“ P. S.—The names of the treasurers and schoolmasters I do not know.”

“ *Henry Brougham, Esq. M. P.*”

Society for promoting Christian Knowledge.

The RECEIPTS of the Society, between the Audit, April 20, 1815,
and the Audit, April, 18, 1816.

	£.	s.	d.
Received benefactions and legacies to the general designs of the Society - - - - -	4,729	3	10
Received subscriptions from the Members of the Society - - - - -	8,655	12	3
Received of the Members on account of packets of books on the terms of the Society - - -	16,505	16	2
Received dividends of Funds for the general designs - - - - -	1,846	5	10
Received ditto at the Accountant General's office	3,003	7	6
Received ditto on account of the Manks impression - - - - -	37	16	0
Received ditto of 100 <i>l.</i> in trust for a Sacrament on holydays at Bow-church - - - - -	2	14	0
Received ditto towards the support of a mission and schools in the Scilly Islands - - - -	49	15	2
Received ditto and rent for Mr. Belke's charity	63	12	4
Received ditto in trust for Mrs. Negus's charity for the distribution of Bibles, &c. in Rotherhithe - - - - -	72	18	0
Received ditto in trust for Mrs. Negus's Welsh charity - - - - -	27	0	0
Return of property-tax on dividends - - - -	391	16	4
Received of the Members on account of Welsh Bibles - - - - -	6	0	0
Received dividends on account of the East India mission - - - - -	313	3	4
Received benefactions to the East India mission	579	5	0
Received from the Lords of the Admiralty through the hands of the Chaplain General - - -	86	11	2
Ditto for balance of a former account, and for Bibles, &c. since the last audit - - - -	278	1	6
Received benefactions on account of the family Bible - - - - -	15	0	0
Received on account of the sale of ditto, and in advance from Members - - - - -	10,400	0	0
Received by sale of 5000 <i>l.</i> 3 per cent. Consols.	3,050	0	0
Received a special donation from Mrs. Ann Jenkins, Wells, Somerset - - - - -	105	0	0
Balance in favour of the treasurer - - - -	7	11	8
	<hr/> £50,226 10 1 <hr/>		

Society for promoting Christian Knowledge.

The PAYMENTS of the Society, between the Audit, April 20, 1815,
and the Audit, April 18, 1816.

	£.	s.	d.
Paid Messrs. Rivington the balance of account last audit - - -	7,531	12	9
Paid ditto in part of 32,357 <i>l.</i> 7 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> for books and packets delivered, to Members on the terms of the Society, since the last audit*	20,214	5	7
Paid ditto on account of Bibles and other books, gratuitously distributed since last audit - -	1,178	7	9
Paid ditto on account of Bibles, &c. distributed to the navy, &c. since last audit - -	277	6	9
Paid for paper and printing for the anniversary sermon, with the annual account of the Society, and for sundry tracts and papers gratuitously distributed - -	1,645	14	6
Paid towards the expenses of the anniversary meeting of the charity children, June 16. 1815	50	0	0
Paid for salaries and gratuities to the missionaries in the East Indies - -	1,097	10	1
Paid for expenses on account of the Scilly mission	395	15	3
Paid for packing-boxes, postage, stationery wares, house repairs, dispersing the anniversary sermon and report, stamps for receipts, insurance, and other incidental expenses - -	812	19	8
Paid salaries to the officers of the Society and their assistants, to Lady-day, 1816, and parliamentary and parish taxes - -	1,115	19	0
Paid on account of Mr. Belke's charity for books	27	16	11
Paid an annuity to the Rev. Mr. Triebner, late missionary, at Ebenezer, in Georgia - -	70	0	0
Paid on account of an annuity to the Rev. Mr. Davis, late missionary at Trescoe, Scilly - -	37	0	0
Paid on account of Mrs. Negus's Rotherhithe charity - -	50	2	10
Paid on account of the family bible - -	14,920	13	0
Paid for the purchase of 867 <i>l.</i> 13 <i>s.</i> 7 <i>d.</i> 3 per cent. Consols for the East India mission - -	500	0	0
Paid rent and house expenses - -	190	6	0
Paid for the purchase of 175 <i>l.</i> 3 per cent. Red. Ann. Mrs. Ann Jenkins, of Wells - -	105	0	0
	£50,226	10	1

The amount of books and packets delivered to Members on the terms of the Society, between the audits of 1815 and 1816, is 32,357*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*; of which 19,774*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* is the Members' part, and 12,582*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* the Society's part.

Account of BIBLES, COMMON PRAYER BOOKS, TRACTS, &c. dispersed by the Society, between the Audit, April 20, 1815, and the Audit, April 18, 1816.

The Society have sent 3,453 packets of books to their Members on the terms of the Society, between the audits of 1815 and 1816; consisting of

Bibles	24,471
New Testaments and Psalters	38,406
Common Prayers	66,048
Other bound books	55,554
Small Tracts, half-bound, &c.	788,387

Packets of books issued gratuitously, and charged to the account of stores;

Bibles	147
New Testaments and Psalters	380
Common Prayers	202
Bound books	117
Small Tracts, half-bound, &c.	6,590

Special account for the Royal Navy;

Bibles	60
New Testaments and Psalters	1,200
Common Prayers	800
Bound books	180
Small Tracts	660

Books and papers distributed gratuitously by the Society,

Tracts distributed with the annual packet	16,000
Directions for a devout and decent behaviour in the public worship of God, in 8vo.	5,581
Ditto, in 12mo.	50,671
Summary account of the Society, on a folio sheet	5,000
Ditto, in 8vo. with a list of the books	5,000
Stonehouse's Admonitions, on a broad sheet	10,000
Papers on Sunday Schools	15,000
— Jesus Christ a pattern of religious Virtue	12,500
— On praying to God	15,000
— On singing Psalms	15,000
— On the Sacrament	15,000
— On the Church Catechism	15,000
— Invitations to Church	15,000
— On Confirmation	15,000

The whole Number distributed, on the Terms of the Society, and gratuitously, is,

Bibles (exclusive of the Society's Family Bible*)	24,678
New Testaments and Psalters	39,986
Common Prayers	67,057
Other bound books	55,851
Small Tracts, &c. half-bound, &c.	795,637
Books and papers, issued gratuitously	219,752

Total 1,202,961

Of the Society's Family Bible with Notes explanatory and practical, three impressions have been printed, and about 15,000 copies have been sold.

May 27, 1816.

GEO. GASKIN, D. D. Secretary.

THE STATE OF THE CHARITY SCHOOLS IN THE METROPOLIS,

ACCORDING TO THE LATEST ACCOUNTS WHICH HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

C. Signifies Clothed.
M. Maintained.B. Children who wear Badges on their Clothes.
W. Set to Work.CHARITY SCHOOLS
IN
THE PARISHES OF

CHARITY SCHOOLS

IN

THE PARISHES OF

	No. of Schools.	BOYS.	GIRLS.	Boys put out since setting up of the School, to			Girls put out since setting up of the School, to			No. of Children Educated in the Schools, including those now in them.
				Apprenticeships.	Services, or taken out by Friends.	Sea.	Apprenticeships.	Services, or taken out by Friends.		
St. Andrew, Holborn, * erected 1696, C. B.	2	80	80	1538	853	125	488	1,344	4,508	
St. Ann, Aldersgate, 1709, C. B.										
Boys—Apprentices, Servants, and Sea 685	2	60	30	..	..	..	..	..	1,255	
Girls—Apprentices and Services 480	2	50	50	..	286	13	..	343	—	
St. Ann, Limehouse, 1779, C. B.	2	50	40	500	526	26	182	604	2,828	
St. Ann, Soho, † 1699, C. B.	2	50	40	500	526	26	182	604	2,828	
Boys, 1699 . . . Girls, 1704 . . .	2	50	40	500	526	26	182	604	2,828	
St. Alphage . . . Girls, 1753, C. B.	2	18	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Boys, 1751 . . . Girls, 1753, C. B.	2	70	30	198	417	32	18	64	829	
Aldgate Ward, 1717, C.	2	33	33	72	941	2	1	542	1,621	
Aldersgate Ward, 1702, C. B.	2	60	40	524	478	31	21	543	1,697	
St. Botolph, Aldgate, Boys, 1688 . . . Girls, 1700, C. B.	2	20	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	
St. Bartholomew the Great, Boys, 1717 . . . Girls, 1727, part C.	2	40	30	90	978	—	—	—	—	
St. Bride's, 1711, C. B.	2	40	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	
St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, 1702, C. B.	2	30	10	267	707	59	2	16	1,091	
Billingsgate Ward, Boys, 1714 . . . Girls, 1803, C. B.	2	55	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Bridge, Candlewick, and Dowgate Wards, Boys, 1710 . . . Girls, 1717, C. B.	2	0	30	489	682	32	130	605	2,018	
Broad-street Ward, Boys, 1709 . . . Girls, 1714, C. B.	2	60	40	616	716	78	320	272	21	
St. Clement Danes, 1702, C. B. †	2	50	25	152	315	10	..	523	1,075	
Cripplegate Ward Within, Boys, 1712 . . . Girls, 1714, C. B.	2	50	50	264	570	23	..	409	1,305	
Christ Church, Spitalfields, 1703, C. B.	2	40	25	285	463	35	147	178	1,173	
Coleman-street Ward, Boys, 1712 . . . Girls, 1758, C. B.	2	50	30	390	894	31	105	524	2,024	
Cordwainer and Bread-street Wards, Boys, 1701 . . . Girls, 1714, C. B.	2	50	30	390	894	31	105	524	2,024	

* Twelve Girls wholly maintained in the house.

† Ten Girls taken into the school house, wholly maintained, and when qualified put out to service.

‡ Eight Girls are lodged and boarded in the house.

State of the Charity Schools in the Metropolis—continued.

CHARITY SCHOOLS IN THE PARISHES OF	No. of Schools.	BOYS.	GIRLS.	Boys put out since setting up of the School, to			Girls put out since setting up of the School, to			No. of Children Educated in the Schools, including those now in them.
				Apprentice-ships.	Services, or taken out by Friends.	Sea.	Apprentice-ships.	Services, or taken out by Friends.		
Cornhill and Lime-street Wards, 1710, C. B.	2	40	40	306	—	—	—	—	—	—
Castle Baynard Ward, Boys, 1710 . . . Girls, 1720, C. B.	2	30	20	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
St. Dunstan in the West, Boys, 1708 . . . Girls, 1710, C. B.	2	40	30	424	—	63	375	—	—	932
St. Ethelburga, Boys, 1719 . . . Girls, 1774, C. B.	2	36	20	294	520	17	—	153	—	1,040
Farringdon Ward Within, Boys, 1705 . . . Girls, 1720, C. B.*	2	60	40	289	270	60	199	234	—	1,152
Finsbury, Boys, 1792 . . . Girls, 1795, C. B.	2	31	21	52	65	27	12	59	—	268
St. Giles in the Fields, and St. George Bloomsbury, 1235, C. B.	2	101	60	981	867	—	480	165	—	2,854
St. George, Hanover-square, day schools of Instruction and Industry, 1804, C.	2	65	45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. George the Martyr, Queen-square, Boys, 1708 . . . Girls, 1709 . . .	2	40	30	476	—	—	271	—	—	817
St. George the Martyr, Southwark . . .	2	60	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Giles, Cripplegate Ward Without, Boys, 1698 . . . Girls, 1709, C. B.	2	102	100	866	1,934	108	—	1,625	—	4,735
St. John, Horsleydown, 1735, C.†	1	—	36	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. James, Clerkenwell, 1697, C. B. . .	2	60	40	578	392	21	—	372	—	1,398
St. John, Wapping, Boys, 1704 . . . Girls, 1708, C. B.	2	50	40	545	—	356	5	548	—	1,544
Joyes, founded by Peter Joyes, Esq. 29th June, 1705, C.	2	30	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Katharine, by the Tower, 1707, C.	2	35	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Luke, Middlesex, Boys, 1698 . . . Girls, 1761, C. B.	2	100	55	707	—	—	—	—	—	862
St. Leonard, Shoreditch, Boys, 1705 . . . Girls, 1709, C. B.	2	100	50	500	700	20	97	820	—	2,287
Langbourn Ward, Boys, 1702 . . . Girls, 1800, C. B.	2	30	20	421	—	28	—	32	—	531
St. Mary, Lambeth, 1661, C. B. . .	1	70	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey, Boys, 1712 . . . Girls, 1722, C. B.	2	30	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Mary, Whitechapel, 1705, C. B. . .	2	100	100	14	—	—	11	—	—	—
St. Mary, Islington, 1710, C. B. . .	2	46	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Mary-le-Strand, 1708, C. B. . .	1	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Mary-le-Bonne, 1750, C. B.†	2	50	50	546	401	—	192	418	—	1,651
1791 § . . . School of Industry,	2	60	60	30	500	20	—	309	—	979

* Twenty of the Girls wholly maintained in the house.

† The Trustees have taken fourteen into the house wholly to be maintained,

‡ They are boarded, lodged in the house, and every necessary found.

§ One hundred and fourteen are clothed from their own industry.

State of the Charity Schools in the Metropolis—continued.

CHARITY SCHOOLS IN THE PARISHES OF	No. of Schools.	BOYS.	GIRLS.	Boys put out since setting up of the School, to			Girls put out since setting up of the School, to			No. of Children educated in the Schools, including those now in them.
				Apprentice- ships.	Services, or taken out by Friends.	&c.	Apprentice- ships.	Services, or taken out by Friends.	&c.	
St. Matthew, Bethnal Green										
Boys, 1765 . . . Girls, 1762, C. B.	3	30	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mile-End, Old Town	2	30	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Paul, Covent Garden, Boys, 1701 . . . Girls, 1712, C.*	2	13	15	265	. .	10	138	. .	441	
St. Paul, Shadwell, Boys, 1669 . . . Girls, 1712, C. B.	2	45	35	372	887	104	40	654	2,137	
St. Pancras	1	. .	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poplar and Blackwall, 1711, C. B. . .	1	50	. .	709	516	66	. .	. .	1,341	
Pentonville, 1788, C.	2	15	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paddington, 1802, C.	2	20	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Queenhythe Ward, 1717, C. B. . . .	2	20	20	. .	338	. .	. .	330	708	
Raine's Hospital, St. George's in the East, 1719, C. B. (†)	2	50	90	339	. .	. .	. .	321	800	
Asylum, 1736, C. B. (†)	1	. .	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Sepulchre, Ladies school, 1702, C. B. +	1	. .	51	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Sepulchre, London, 1702, C. B. . .	1	51	. .	1095	216	26	. .	. .	1,388	
St. Sepulchre, Middlesex, Boys, 1702, C.	1	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Sepulchre, Middlesex, Girls, 1702, C.	1	. .	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Stephen, Walbrook, Boys, 1698 . . . Girls, 1778, C. B.	2	50	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Thomas, Southwark, 1703, C. B. . .	1	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tower Ward, Boys, 1709 . . . Girls, 1707, C. B.	2	60	60	78	1,242	137	186	1,339	3,102	
Vintry Ward, 1710, C. B.	2	48	17	266	963	10	. .	. .	1,304	

* Fourteen boys and fourteen girls are maintained in the house.

† Raine's Asylum, set up in the same parish of St. George in the East, 1736, for 40 girls. These girls, being transplanted from the parish school into the said hospital, are entirely maintained and trained up for services.—After the age of 22, six of them, producing certificates of their good behaviour during their servitude, draw lots, twice in the year, for a marriage portion of £100. *to settle them in the world with an honest industrious mechanic;—80 have received it, and 527 have been educated since its institution.

+ Forty-three wholly maintained in the house.

Mr. CHARLES FRANCIS JAMESON, called in, and examined.

You are master of the school in Horseferry Road?—I am.

How long have you been so?—Ever since the school was opened.

When was that?—16th of January 1815.

How many are educated there?—We have about 250 on the books at present.

How many actually attend?—The attendance is very irregular, sometimes 205, sometimes 170 or 180.

Two hundred on an average?—No; about 180; but although these boys do not attend, the principal part of them are in the school in the course of the week, though they are not present at the same time. The number admitted since the 16th of January 1815, is 413; 359 of the church of England, 3 Jews, 5 of the kirk of Scotland, 7 Baptists, and 36 other Dissenters. We take in all religions; we only ask the question in order to know what religions we have; they may attend what place of worship they please. At the present moment, we have 195 of the church of England, 3 Jews, 5 of the kirk of Scotland, 1 Baptist, 4 Catholics, and 35 Dissenters.

Could the school hold more?—It was built for 400, and will hold 500.

Would the funds allow of more boys being educated at the school?—I am not able to say any thing about the funds.

Do you know any thing of the expense of the school?—Yes.

What is your salary?—100*l.* a year.

Without perquisite?—I have no perquisite at all.

What is the annual expenditure of the school?—50*l.* a year.

How long do you find the boys have taken to learn to read?—That depends upon the abilities of the child; they read two hours a day, and write and cipher the same.

How long does a child of ordinary capacity take to learn to read?—I cannot tell how to answer that; some boys much longer than others; I think in about a year and a half, a boy would learn to read very well, provided he knew his alphabet before he went into the school; I could produce some boys that have learnt very well in that time.

Do you know any thing about Sunday schools?—We have one on the same premises.

Are they taught on the same principles?—They do not allow any writing or ciphering; it is a church school that is held on the same premises; the Rev. Mr. Saunders carries it on.

*Do you know how long the children are learning to read, then?—No, I am not able to state how long they take.

How many attend there?—I believe about 415 boys and girls. There is a division in the school by green curtains between the boys and girls; and although it is in one school-room, yet there are separate places for boys and girls.

Do you know what is the mode of teaching?—No, I do not; the committee I serve have nothing to do with the Sunday school; they pay 15*l.* a-year rent for it.

When you say that a boy will take a year and a half to learn to read at a day-school, what proficiency do you allude to?—I mean, that he shall be able to spell any word that shall be put to him out of book: I class my boys by spelling; and if I find a boy can read well in the Testament, and cannot spell a word of two syllables, I put him down in the fifth class.

In what time will a boy get into that fifth class, from the time of his admission into the school?—In five months; we allow a month to a class.

Do many of your children leave you before you wish them?—I never wish them to leave till they are thirteen years old.

Do many leave before that period?—In a year and a half 170 have left, out of 413.

Most of them under thirteen?—Yes.

Do many leave you before they attain the fifth class?—Very few indeed; unless they go away to other schools: there are other charities in Westminster, where the parents find it more their interest to get them in, the Blue-coat school, the Grey-coat school, and the Green-coat school, for instance.

Do many leave you before they attain that proficiency in spelling which you before mentioned?—That depends on circumstances: some go away, and spend their time in the streets, without any education; they leave the school, and refuse to give any reason why: I have repeatedly seen boys that have been admitted, running the streets, and I believe they are not sent to any school at all; very many, I could say to the amount of fifty or sixty, out of the 170 that have left.

Is this your own doing, or is it with the consent of their parents?—I never turn any boy away, unless I inform the committee that I am going so to do; and only two boys have at any time been sent out of the school for misbehaviour.

Do those boys that you represent as having left the school, and running about the streets, act in this manner with the consent of their parents, or not?—Of course, the parent

must consent, because they know they are playing about, and not at the school; and I repeatedly, day by day, send after those boys, in a very different method from any school in London; I mean those boys who remain on the books, but who are not crossed out.

Have you any rules respecting the expelling of a boy after a certain degree of non-attendance?—If he does not attend in six weeks, unless he is ill, his name is crossed out; if his name is crossed out, and he applies again for admission, he is re-admitted by another number, and then he is classed afresh. I compel each boy to wear a number on his head, which number they keep constantly, in order to distinguish them apart; and if a boy who has number 2 or 3 on his head is present in the morning, he hangs his ticket on a nail drove in the desk for that purpose; if he is absent in the afternoon, his ticket remains hanging on the nail, there is no owner for it, consequently those numbers are brought up at five o'clock in the afternoon, at the time I dismiss them. In order to ascertain who are absent, I hang this number up behind where I sit on the platform, and every morning and afternoon I send after the absentees; I send after them by calling out, Who knows where No. 2. lives? the boy that knows will hold up his hand, and then I place his number exactly opposite to the boy's that I send after him, and then that boy cannot go to his seat, because he has not got his ticket, it is hanging behind me. The boy that I send after him brings me an account where he is; and the boy, by receiving his ticket, also gives me an account where he has been, so that if the accounts agree, I know whether the boy has played truant or not.

Are boys who, after having been dismissed for non-attendance, and have been re-admitted, allowed to be non-attendants for six weeks, before they are again expelled?—After they have been once crossed out of the books, I generally ascertain from their parents where they have been, and the reason of their leaving the school; and I make a memorandum, under my observation, of the answer which I receive from the parents; and when they are re-admitted, I generally have better and more regular attendance from them.

Are any applicants to be admitted into this school refused admission, who are of a proper age?—None at all.

Has the school increased or decreased in its numbers, of late?—Decreased, but not many.

Within what time?—During this last winter; we consider it to be owing to the want of employment.

Do you consider the want of such numbers in the school is to be considered to proceed from any thing peculiar in

the school, or from a general disinclination, in the poor in the neighbourhood to receive instruction?—The general objection appears to be on the part of parents sending them to a charity school.

You mean where they have education gratis?—Yes, I have heard the observation repeatedly made.

They do not pay any thing in your school?—A penny a week each boy: it was introduced by some member of the committee, in order to do away the objection that many had, under the idea of its being a charity school; but there are very few that pay among the boys; I never enforce it, nor ever turn away any child on account of it.

You have formed a regulation, then, of taking a penny a week from those who choose to send their children to the school?—It is what our committee, at present, will not give up: I have repeatedly written to them on the subject; for I have found parents, where they have four or five in a family, who have not paid perhaps for three or four weeks; and, for want of money, the parents have taken the children away altogether. But to remedy that evil, I generally call on the parents, and take them for nothing; that is the case with the three Jew boys I have, and five Catholics of one family, in the school at this present time.

The committee are to understand, then, that some parents do not like to send, except they may pay, and others do not like it, except they can have it gratis?—They cannot afford it: and I believe I have children in the school, who are in decimals and fractions, whose parents are perhaps worth several thousand pounds.

And who pay, regularly?—Yes; I know it is the case with three or four.

You mentioned the disinclination of some to send their children to a school at which they were not to pay something, and a regulation of the committee to receive a penny a week in order to meet the objection of such parents; did you find that such regulation to receive a penny a week so far did away prejudices as to increase the number in your school?—Certainly; I opened the school on the 16th of January 1815, with 37 boys only, which have now increased to 250. It had been a school before, but it was shut up for a twelvemonth, in consequence, as I understood, of some disagreement of the committee that had belonged to it; and the whole of the boys principally left, for the national and other schools.

Can you state any other circumstances which, in your opinion, prevent the school from being filled?—No, not particularly; I am unable to state exactly what is the reason why the parents of the children will not allow them to come

to school; but there certainly is that which does prevent them, and which I think nothing but some compulsion will make them accede to.

Has it come to your knowledge that any of the regulations of the school are complained of in the neighbourhood?—No, I have never heard of any, except it is the punishment that is used in the school.

What punishment is used in the school?—No particular punishment, except it is for playing the truant, or stealing.

What is that punishment?—I always flog them when they play truant, and for nothing else, except it is stealing, and then I set one boy to flog another, because I think it disgraces the boy more.

Do you adopt the general system of the Lancasterian schools in all other respects, except that?—I do not follow the Lancasterian system altogether; I differ a great deal.

Were you taught at the school in the Borough-road?—Yes, I was; but the Earl of Stanhope, who is a member of the committee, has taken a great deal of interest in the school lately, and has given full permission that any improvement to render the system more easy may be adopted, which has been sanctioned also by the other members of the committee.

All the alteration, then, the committee are to understand, that has been made, is sanctioned by the committee?—Yes, what are for improvements; if any gentleman comes into the school and suggests that any thing is an improvement, in order to make the system more easy, I immediately adopt it.

Do you conceive any of those improvements have been distasteful to the poor?—Certainly not; the groundwork is the same as all other Lancasterian schools in London.

Do you conceive that the alterations that have been made has been the cause that has prevented parents from sending their children?—Certainly not.

Has any complaint been made by the parents of the children, respecting the books which are read?—None with respect to the parents; there has been some objection among some members of the committee, which has made the thing rather unpleasant for me; very much so.

Has any complaint been made with respect to your excluding certain books?—We never use any thing but the Bible and Testament, and that is without any comment at all; the Scripture is not at all interpreted, in any way.

Have the parents complained of the Scriptures not being interpreted?—I never heard of it.

Have they complained of your not using any catechism?—I never heard of it.

Do you conceive the want of clothing is an objection to

the poor sending their children to school?—That has been an objection at times; but I have endeavoured to remedy that evil; for Mr. Sanders will, on application, if it is particularly wished, give a pair of shoes to a boy, if he attends the Sunday-school and day-school as well.

Do you believe, from your knowledge of the district, that poor persons would send their children if they were able to clothe them properly?—I do not think it would. If a boy has no shoes, I take him in: I have had boys come to me without shoes, and we have never refused to admit them into the school.

Do you then imagine your school would be at all benefited, if the discipline you mentioned were altered; by which is meant the discipline with respect to truants?—No, I do not apprehend it would at all.

Has the circumstance of the corporal punishment being in use, subjected it to any hard name in the neighbourhood?—O, dear, no; it is scarcely ever inflicted on any boys, except upon those boys whose parents can do nothing with them at home.

Have you any rewards for good behaviour in your school?—Every boy that gets out of any one class to a higher class, receives a penny; and the monitor that teaches that class, he also receives a penny for every boy; that is the only reward.

Have you no rewards for punctual attendance?—None at all.

What are the hours of attendance?—From nine to twelve, and from two to five.

Mr. JAMES MILLER, called in, and examined.

What are you?—Assistant secretary to the British and Foreign School Society.

What is the paper you have in your hand?—An account of schools in the parish of Shoreditch, which is one district of the north-east division of London. And we shall be able to bring in three or four more in the course of Monday and Tuesday; and likewise some account of the want of education. We have a number of hands employed, who are visiting the houses of the poor, to discover who have education, and who want it. [It was delivered in, and read, as follows:]

NORTH-EAST LONDON SCHOOLS FOR THE POOR.

Instituted.	Where situated.	Description.	Day School.		Sunday School.		If boarded or clothed.	Treasurer or Secretary.	Master or Mistress.	Annual Expense.	Remarks.
			Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.				£. s. d.	
	SHOREDITCH.										
1705	Kingsland Road	Church	100	—	—	—	Clothed	Charles Lush, Charles-square	Clifford Elisia	680 0 0	
1705	Ditto	Ditto	—	60	—	—	Ditto	Ditto	Mary Tucker	150 0 0	
1808	Shoreditch, &c.	Ditto	—	—	327	282	—	Rev. R. Crosby	Sundry . paid	233 19 7	
	Hill Court	Dissenters	—	—	60	60	—	John Ludlow, Primrose-street	Ditto gratuitous	25 0 0	
	Hoxton Chapel	Ditto	—	—	320	270	—	Thomas Hardy, Hoxton	Ditto	75 0 0	
	Land of Promise	Methodist	—	—	150	150	—	William Marriott, York-place	Ditto	53 0 0	
	Haggerston	Ditto	—	—	50	50	—	Ditto	Ditto	30 0 0	
	Union-street	Ditto	—	—	75	75	—	— Dowset, Steward, &c.	Ditto	20 0 0	
	Holywell-street	Dissenters	—	—	50	50	—	Rev. W. F. Platt	Ditto	—	£10. 10s. extra paid for teaching to write 2 Evenings per week.
	Cumberland-street	Ditto	—	—	50	50	—	Rev. — Frere	Ditto	—	
	Total		100	60	1,082	987					

Mr. HENRY WOODTHORPE, Jan. called in, and examined.

What is the paper you have in your hand?—An account of the receipts and expenses of Emmanuel Hospital, for 1814 and 1815.

[It was delivered in, and read, as follows:]

A Statement of the RECEIPT and EXPENDITURE of the Fund for the support of Emmanuel Hospital Westminster, for the Years 1814 and 1815.

R E C E I P T.		For the year 1814.	For the year 1815.
To amount of the rents of the estate at Brandsburton, from Lady-day to Lady-day — — —	£ s. d.	2,989 15 0	3,078 17 9½
To rent of premises at Westminster, per annum —	£ s. d.	110 0 0	110 0 0
To interest on £5,400 Consolidated, £3 per Cent, Annuities — — —	£ s. d.	162 0 0	—
To ditto on £7,900 of the said stock — — —	£ s. d.	—	199 10 0
Note. £2,500 of the said stock was purchased on the 10th May 1815, per order Court of Al- dermen.			
To Property Duty returned, for the years 1811 and 1812 — — — — —	£ s. d.	197 2 0	193 7 0
	£	3,458 17 0	3,581 14 9½
Average of Income — —		£3,520	5 10
E X P E N D I T U R E.		For the year 1814.	For the year 1815.
By tithes to the rector of Brandsburton (after de- ducting the Property Tax) — — —	£ s. d.	819 18 0	819 18 0
By Property Duty on rents — — —	£ s. d.	283 5 0	284 7 1½
By agent's allowance, and sundry repairs — — —	£ s. d.	460 2 2	781 1 9
		1,563 5 2	1,885 6 10½
By the allowance to ten poor men and ten poor wo- men, residing in the hospital — — —	£ s. d.	403 8 0	403 8 6
By allowance to out-pensioners — — —	£ s. d.	90 2 8	100 3 0
By expenses of bread, meat, medicines, and various other necessaries for the maintenance of ten boys and ten girls, residing in ditto — — —	£ s. d.	461 14 10	434 13 6
By allowance to the master, for educating the said children, doing the duty of chaplain, and superin- tending the whole of the concern within the hos- pital — — —	£ s. d.	80 0 0	80 0 0
By allowance to the mistress, including £20. for laundry — — —	£ s. d.	70 0 0	70 0 0
By clothing, linen, and shoes, for the children — —	£ s. d.	149 17 7½	121 17 11
By coals — — —	£ s. d.	109 10 6	90 8 0
By premiums (£10.) on apprenticing children — —	£ s. d.	20 0 0	35 0 0
By rent and taxes for the hospital, &c. — — —	£ s. d.	57 18 4	69 5 10
By repairs of the hospital — — —	£ s. d.	177 5 9½	163 1 3
	£	3,183 2 11	3,453 4 10½
Average of Expenditure — —		£3,318	3 11

Chamberlain's Office, }
June 1st, 1816. }

What is the meaning of this item, of "tithes to the rector of Brandsburton?"—It is a composition in lieu of tithes on the estate of Brandsburton.

How long has this been paid?—I hardly recollect how long; I believe for about six or seven years.

Adjourned to Monday next, 12 o'clock.

END OF THE FIRST REPORT.

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